Pixley wants to withdraw as counsel for Manila. PAGE 2
CUC to expand hiring of CW workers by just a few. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

Torres set to form pot commission

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is looking to name his two nominees for the five-member CNMI Cannabis Commission within the week and is also asking the mayors of the Northern Islands, Rota, and Tinian to do the same.

The CNMI Cannabis Commission will be tasked to regulate cannabis use in the Commonwealth as stated in Public Law 20-66 or the Taulamwarr Sensible CNMI Cannabis Act of 208 that Torres signed last month.

"I like to ask the mayors to expedite their [commissioner's] appointment. We have 30 days from the law to name the appointees. And I hope we can

See TORRES on Page 4

Salary commission bill signed into law

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed Senate Bill 20-111, or the measure that would establish an advisory commission on the compensation of CNMI executive, legislative, and judicial officers, into law last Friday. S.B. 20-11 is one of the four legislations that Torres signed last Friday and is now known as Public Law 20-71

The commission will have seven members with three to be appointed by Torres, while Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) and House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) will have two appointees each. The commission needs to be formed within 15 days of the effective date.

Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) introduced P.L. 20-71, but was offered by the Senate

See SALARY on Page 4

DPS intends to keep treating cannabis as illegal substance

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety is looking at treating cannabis as an illegal drug until the local government comes forth with new rules and regulations that the department can enforce.

During an interview with Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero, he said his agency will view cannabis as an illegal drug and implement current drug policies until regulations are drafted.

Guerrero

"I do not have any plans of changing any of our drug policies for the department…We will continue to implement our current drug policies…. until such time

See DPS on Page 4

INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS EXPO
A participant of the 2nd Annual Indigenous Affairs Expo tries his hand in cleaning a parrot fish yesterday at the Civic Center in Susupe.

See story on Page 4

WHEN DECEDENT WIFE HAS NMD CHILDREN

'Article 12 prohibits non-NMD widower from inheriting land'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Camacho

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has ruled that a non-Northern Marianas Descent widower cannot inherit lands of his decedent wife, who was an NMD and has NMD children.

In an order issued Friday granting a motion to reconsider, Camacho said the CNMI Constitution, Article 12, Section 2 prohibits a non-NMD surviving spouse from inheriting land when a decedent has NMD issue who can own land.

The judge ruled that since decedent Elphidia

See ARTICLE 12 on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL
The Department of Labor's Job Fair at the Kagman High School cafeteria attracted over 50 jobseekers and over 20 employers.

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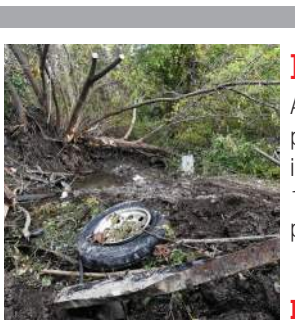

NATION
A limousine slammed into a parked SUV outside a store in upstate New York, killing all 18 people in the limo and two pedestrians.

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OVERDRIVE
Nissan has redesigned the Altima for 2019 with an all-new platform and two new engines with all-wheel drive or front-wheel drive.

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Local

Pixley wants to withdraw as counsel for Manila

Steven P. Pixley wants to withdraw as counsel for inmate Reynaldo A. Manila, who is suing several Department of Corrections' officials and officers.

Pixley asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI last Thursday to issue an order permitting his withdrawal from representing Manila in this civil proceeding.

Pixley said based upon his review of documents, discussions with Manila, meetings with defense counsel, and legal research, he is unable to proceed with the representation of Manila in this case.

Manila claimed that he may be losing his vision due to the negligence of DOC. He filed an amended complaint naming as defendants former DOC commissioner Georgia M. Cabrera, former DOC commissioner Robert Guerrero, and former acting DOC commissioner Jose K. Pangelinan.

Manila filed pro se (or without a lawyer) the amended complaint following U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona's order that found his complaint not frivolous.

Cabrera has asked the court to order Manila to clarify his lawsuit against her and other DOC officials and officers.

Cabrera, through counsel assistant attorney general Hessel Yntema, said presently she is at a loss and without guessing is unable to form a responsive pleading to Manila's complaint.

Cabrera is currently the director of DOC's civil division.

DOC, through OAG Civil Division chief Christopher M. Timmons, also filed a motion to dismiss DOC from the case and instead replace it with the CNMI government.

Timmons also asked the court to dismiss the suit, asserting that the Commonwealth is entitled to sovereign immunity against suits for damages that are brought in federal court.

Manila has sought help from the District Court after his eye surgery at the Commonwealth Health Center in September 2017 was allegedly unsuccessful and that he is worried he is losing his vision.

Manila, now, 56 years old, has been serving 17 years of the 60-year prison term.

The Superior Court sentenced Manila in June 2002 to 60 years in prison for second-degree murder over the death of his 6-month-old goddaughter.

A jury found Manila guilty of second-degree murder and child abuse.

Manila has insisted that he did not kill the child. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Over 150 attend walkathon for diabetes

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Over 150 participated in a walkathon a charter of the Lion's Club International organized last Saturday for diabetes.

The Saipan Marianas Lions Club, with its 33 members, held their first walkathon fundraiser to raise funds for diabetes patients, attracting 155 participants and raising a gross of $4,500 in funds.

The course started from the Garapan Fishing Base with a turnaround point at the Quartermaster Road.

Ladyvir Canape is the secretary of the SMLC and chairwoman of the first annual walkathon of the organization. The SMLC is led by its president Flor Miranda.

"We would like to say thank you to all our volunteers, supporters, members of community that came to join us even though little bit rain before the start. The Walkathon was considered a success knowing that this is the first for the Saipan Marianas Lions Club," Canape told *Saipan Tribune*.

She noted in an email that there were 38 total sponsors and that half of all the proceeds raised from the walkathon goes to the TanHoldings Football Club.

"One way to eradicate diabetes is to be active and supporting the football club helps achieve that goal through sports," Canape clarified with *Saipan Tribune*.

She disclosed that the remaining half of the proceeds would go to the club for its "different community projects," including a hunger relief program, a youth development program, an environmental protection program, and "annual gift giving to the Children's Development Assistance Center Early Intervention Program" and many others.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Marianas Lions Club's first walkathon fundraiser last Saturday attracted 155 participants and raised a gross of $4,500.

CHC to receive over $4M worth of equipment

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Before the end of 2018, the Commonwealth Health Center will receive a load of new equipment worth about $4 million that will aid in the further advancement of the CNMI's lone hospital.

During an interview with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres last Saturday at the Club 88 ribbon cutting ceremony, he said he has been working closely with CHC administrator Jesse Tudela and together have finalized what equipment the hospital is in dire need of in terms of advancement.

"We met with the administrator and we are really buckling down the actual needs because what we did…earlier, we had a whole list from CHC and throughout the year we continued to give them funding for it so they've upgraded a lot, some of their equipment. We didn't want to double the order of equipment so we are now in the process of ordering all the equipment we agreed on with the administrator… It's looking to be about $4 million," he said.

According to Torres, the list includes various state-of-the-art machines.

"I gave my word to purchase a new mammogram, that's one of it, hyperbaric chamber, there is a whole list but I don't have it on the top of my head," he said.

Torres added that the equipment is expected to arrive before the year ends.

"We are expecting to have the equipment in by November. We will start ordering them in the next couple of weeks so they will be in definitely before December… this is really good for our hospital…and for our residents," he said.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 8-41, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CDA) THRU ITS CHAIRMAN, HEREBY INFORMS THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE CDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2018 AT 10:00 A.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CDA CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, CDA BUILDING, SAN JOSE VILLAGE, SAIPAN. THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
   1. Roll Call
   2. Adoption of Agenda
   3. Adoption of Minutes— September 17, 2018

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

IV. OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE SUBJECTS ABOVE

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VI. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. ***(Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).***

/s/ BENJAMIN K. PETERSBURG
Acting Chairman, CDA Board of Directors

CANCELLED

CUC to expand hiring of CW workers by just a few

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will continue to expand the Commonwealth-Only Transitional Worker Program (CW) by just a few, according to CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho.

Camacho said the CW workers' efforts will be to continue to develop the U.S. local staff of CUC.

"I don't know the exact details (number of renewed CW workers) right now but our continued efforts obviously is to replace them," he said during an interview with *Saipan Tribune* shortly after the proclamation signing for CNMI Public Power Week last Thursday.

Camacho

Camacho said they are extending their appreciation to Gov. Ralph DLG. and his committee who put a lot of work in trying to get that CW extension law accomplished.

» But says CW workers' efforts will be to continue to develop US, local staff

Last August, CUC listed it has 20 foreign workers. Ten have CW visas, while 10 others have H1-B visas. Most of them are with CUC's Power Generation Division.

Camacho disclosed in that same period that seven other foreign workers who have CW-1 visas, who are all assigned in power generation, have stopped working while their CW-1 applications are in process.

In his speech during Thursday's proclamation signing, Camacho said in their efforts in continuing to prepare for the future, last week several power generation trades personnel graduated from the Northern Marianas Trades Institute with gained skills in electrical, welding, and power generation maintenance.

He said CUC is also looking to have their linemen undergo a training program to become journeymen, recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor.

"We refuse to quit. We will continue to be ready and even more so to be more typhoon prepared!" Camacho said.

He said CNMI Public Power Week is aimed to help customers, who are their stakeholders, understand how they can better engage with their community-owned utility and benefit from all its offerings.

"Just three weeks ago, Mother Nature, through Typhoon Mangkhut, reminded us who was in charge," Camacho said, citing that Saipan, Tinian, and Rota experienced its worst wrath and destruction.

"It brought back memories of Typhoon Soudelor three years ago," he said.

But CUC's power crew, Camacho said, the power generation and power distribution personnel, and linemen, and all the support staff in human resources, procurement, administration, accounting, meter readers, and others are "even more resilient today as evident in the quick restoration of power services following Mangkhut's destruction."

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Survivors, caregivers support meeting on Thursday

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 11, 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. The guest speaker for the meeting will be nutritionist Hee Jae Lee.

To RSVP or for more information, call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

JKPL to host 7th Trunk-or-Treat

The 7th Annual Halloween Trunk-Or-Treat is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2018, from 3:30pm to 6:30pm at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library parking lot in Susupe. Organizations who are willing to sponsor can contact Trunk-or-Treat coordinators Omar Manacop and/or Rose Ulloa at 235-7329/7315. You can also email jkplitc@gmail.com or rosalindaulloajkpl@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

SINMI accepting applications for award

The Soroptimist International of the Northern Mariana Islands is now accepting applications for our annual Live Your Dream award. The completed application and two reference forms must be submitted before Oct. 10, 2018, for consideration in the judging process. For digital copies of both forms, email pbrown52@gmail.com.

These annual awards are given to women who are attending college or vocational training and who are the primary financial support for their family. A list of other requirements will be provided. The award money can be spent on whatever a recipient chooses.

Plan ahead to attend our award ceremony on Oct. 20 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan at 6pm. Ticket prices are $50. For more information, contact Pam Brown at (670) 483-9496 or Maureen Sebangiol at (670) 287-4674. ***(PR)***

US Naval Base Guam front gate closure, traffic pattern change

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG)-Main Base front gate will be closed from 4am, Oct. 6 through 4am, Oct. 9 for construction. The back gate will be open for traffic during this time.

In addition, the traffic pattern at the NBG-Main Base front gate will change effective Tuesday, Oct. 9. There will be three inbound lanes and one outbound lane Monday through Friday from 6:30am to 8am.

Improving base access in support of improved military readiness and ensuring the safety and security of military and civilian personnel remains a top priority. As NBG implements this new traffic flow at the entry control point (ECP), all drivers accessing NBG installations are reminded to pay attention to the traffic pattern, follow Security's directions, pay attention to all posted signs, stop at the Security sentry's position, provide a valid ID and proceed only when cleared by the sentry. ***(PR)***

Zoning requires hotel to employ shuttle services

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The CNMI Zoning Board has required Saipan Beach Hotel located at Laly 4 Beach in Chalan Kanoa to employ shuttle services to better mitigate traffic and avoid congestions in the area.

Providing shuttle services was among the conditions that Zoning Board required in granting Magisland LLC's use of conditional use permit for its 23-room Saipan Beach Hotel.

The board also limits the hotel's number of its occupants utilizing vehicles to 12.

Magisland LLC has filed a request from the Zoning Office for conditional use permit to occupy the existing four-storey building with 23 units to operate the Saipan Beach Hotel.

The area is zoned as tourist resort.

The Zoning Board conducted a public hearing on the Saipan Beach Hotel's permit at the Kanoa Resort's Latte Stone conference room last Thursday afternoon.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
The CNMI Zoning Board requires Saipan Beach Hotel located at Laly 4 Beach in Chalan Kanoa to employ shuttle services to avoid traffic congestions in the area as among the conditions in granting Magisland LLC's request for conditional use permit to operate a 23-room hotel.

The Zoning staff finds Magisland LLC's request acceptable.

Among other conditions that Zoning imposed is that Saipan Beach Hotel shall improve its parking area and designate clearly marked parking stalls in front of its establishment which conforms to parking requirements of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

The hotel was required to employ permeable surface on their parking lot to avoid flooding, and install sufficient light posts within parking areas.

Present at the hearing, were Zoning board chair Diego C. Blanco, treasurer Mariano Taitano, secretary Joe Ayuyu Jr., and member Patrick Reyes.

After the Marine Sports Hotel that occupied the building shutdown business many years ago, the four-story building became abandoned.

Magisland LLC bought the structure two years ago and turned it into Saipan Beach Hotel last January, according to Mustafa Shakir, who is part of the hotel's managing company.

Shakir said $600,000 is the estimated budget for the renovation of the hotel, which is located on 1,000 square meters of beach-front land.

The hotel is a one-minute walk to the beach. It offers some rooms with garden views and free WiFi throughout the property.

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Tudela: Indigenous Affairs Expo a success

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2nd Annual Indigenous Affairs Expo yesterday was a success, according to Indigenous Affairs Office resident executive Roman Tudela Jr.

The event, which was held at the Civic Center in Susupe, highlighted several aspects of the Chamorro, Carolinian, and even the Samoan culture, including weaving, fishing, and even the usefulness of the coconut, which is the theme for this year.

"We see it a very fitted day to showcase our culture," said Tudela, who recognized that yesterday was also Commonwealth Cultural Day.

Several demonstrations were held yesterday, including a spear fishing demonstration by James Roberto, net fishing by Steve Dela Cruz, fish cleaning by Jesse Ogo, hat weaving by Steve Van Winkle, skirt weaving by Fidelia Mafnas, body adornments by Leocardio Ruben, floral crafts by Patricia Mareham, local medicine by Donald Mendiola, coconut rope by Emit Ikea, coconut clothing by Quindy Maratita, and many more.

"It's overwhelming," said Tudela referring to the overall turnout of the event. He noted that the Carolinian Affairs Office, led by special assistant John Tagabuel roasted five whole pigs in a traditional underground oven known as an *uumw*. The office also roasting in an *uumw* some beef ribs and legs for the expo.

"The big guys have witnessed what we have been working toward. Today is the day we get to enjoy and learn—teach our kids our culture. There isn't much to share, but we must share what we have and preserve it," Tudela said.

Tudela noted that he was referring to House Speaker Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan), Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres as the "big guys."

"…I hope that next year other villages would come and promote something within their respective villages," said Torres in an interview. "It's a good day for us to continue to expose our culture and I see there are notably more participants this year, so [the expo] is getting a lot bigger," he continued, adding that he wishes the same for next year's expo.

Woman to enter guilty plea for entering Saipan as tourist in 2015, with intent to give birth

A woman who allegedly entered the CNMI in 2015 as a tourist from China, but the real intent was to give birth, is expected to enter a guilty plea today, Tuesday, in federal court.

Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe, counsel for the U.S. government, informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI last Thursday that defendant Lichan Lu signed a plea agreement.

The plea deal was sealed.

Following the plea agreement, Backe requested the court to set this matter for a change of plea hearing for today.

Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted the U.S. government's motion and set the hearing for today at 9am.

Last Thursday, Backe filed an information that charged Lu with one count of improper entry into the U.S. by false statement.

According to the charging document, on June 28, 2015, when asked by Customs and Border Protection why she had come to the U.S., Lu stated she had come for tourism purposes, a representation she knew was false and fraudulent, in that she had come to give birth.

Using a tip, Lu was arrested last week after U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations Saipan personnel saw Lu at the Marina Heights II building in Puerto Rico. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

DPS

From Page 1

that the regulations come out," he said.

Guerrero said that standard drug policies would continue to be carried out by the department's police officers.

"Other than the standard drug policies that we have…that's what we will be going by and that's what we will maintain as law enforcement officers and as the Department of Public Safety," he said.

The standard policy with any sort of drug is confiscation of the illegal substance and arrest.

"Although marijuana is not as bad as 'ice,' we do confiscate it and we still make an arrest," said Guerrero.

Guerrero is adamant about sticking to the standard drug procedure until he is notified differently.

"We will not deviate from that unless otherwise noted by law but for now, that is what we are sticking with," he said.

According to a previous article on the *Saipan Tribune*, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres enacted House Bill 20-178, a pro-cannabis legislation that saw the CNMI make history as the first U.S. territory to legalize both medical and recreational use of marijuana. That also made the CNMI the first U.S. jurisdiction to do so through its legislature, rather than via ballot initiative.

The law legalizes and controls the use of cannabis in the Commonwealth, becoming the first U.S. jurisdiction to allow the commercial and medicinal use of marijuana. Those who are allowed are adults 21 years old or older.

ARTICLE 12

From Page 1

Dela Cruz Nauta is survived by issue who are NMD and thus able to own land in the Commonwealth, the spouse, William A. Nauta Sr., who is a person of non-NMD, cannot acquire an interest in her Koblerville and Chalan Piao properties.

Camacho said issue is a term of art meaning "lineal descendants of all generations, with the relationship of parent and child at each generation being determined by the definitions of child and parent."

Camacho said based upon a finding of clear error in his previous order, he must grant the motion for reconsideration filed by Kenneth DLC Nauta, one of her three sons.

Elpidia Dela Cruz Nauta was a person of NMD. Her surviving spouse, William A. Nauta Sr., is a person of non-NMD.

Elpidia Nauta was survived by three sons, William Nauta Jr., Kenneth Nauta, and John Nauta who are NMDs like their mother.

Kenneth, through counsel Brien Sers Nicholas, filed a motion for reconsideration that asks the Superior Court reconsider two prior orders relating to property in the decedent's estate.

The first prior order pertains to decedent's property in Koblerville, while the second order is regarding decedent's properties in Chalan Piao.

In the Koblerville order, the court previously held that William Sr., as the surviving non-NMD spouse, may inherit a portion of a lot in Koblerville.

The court then ordered that the property shall be distributed to William Sr. an undivided one-half share, for his life, but in no event longer than 55 years, and the vested remainder in fee simple to William Jr., Kenneth, and John, in equal and undivided shares.

The court ordered that the property shall be distributed to William Jr., Kenneth, and John in fee simple in equal and undivided shares on an undivided one-half share in undivided one-eight interest.

In the Chalan Piao order, the court previously found that William Sr. could inherit an interest in two lots in Chalan Piao.

Despite this, Camacho previously found that the ground lease as to the properties was unsigned, so the court did not make any order as to how the properties should actually be distributed.

Kenneth's motion for reconsideration asks the court reconsider whether William Sr., as a non-NMD surviving spouse, may inherit an interest in property on Saipan.

In particular, whether William Sr. may inherit when decedent is survived by issue who are able to hold land in the CNMI.

Kenneth, through counsel Nicholas, argued that allowing William Sr. to take any property interest in the Koblerville and Chalan Piao properties is both a clear error and a manifest injustice.

In granting the motion for reconsideration, Camacho said the Commonwealth Constitution states: "A transfer to a spouse by inheritance is not an acquisition under this section if the owner dies without issue or with issue not eligible to own land in the NMI."

Camacho said in his prior order addressing whether William Sr. could inherit an interest in the Koblerville and Chalan Piao properties, he looked for guidance to the CNMI Supreme Court's ruling in the estate of Tudela case.

Camacho said under Tudela, in a "typical situation, when a decedent leaves a spouse, he will also leave issue, and each will take half."

He said in his prior order he then found that William Sr., as the non-NMD surviving spouse, took half of the property, with the decedent's NMD issue taking the remaining half.

Camacho said he, however, in that order limited William Sr.'s inheritance to a term of 55 years, pursuant to Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution.

Camacho said his prior ruling was in clear error.

He said although the Tudela case provides for a non-NMD surviving spouse to inherit property in the CNMI, the decedent in Tudela did not have issue who could inherit land in the Commonwealth.

Camacho said this case is different from Tudela, because decedent Elpidia Nauta has children who are NMD and can inherit land.

"The court's reliance upon Tudela under these circumstances was misplaced," the judge pointed out.

Camacho said as he has found clear error in the previous orders, the court need not reach the issue of manifest injustice.

SALARY

From Page 1

Committee of the Whole. Its purpose is to comply with the CNMI Superior Court's decision that the salary increase for the Legislature must be calculated based off a specific accepted Composite Price Index.

It must be within the percentage change of the CPI for the period of the last salary increase and not greater than the maximum salary recommended by the seven-member advisory commission.

The formation of the commission hopes to once and for all end the controversial issue that began through P.L. 19-83, which increased the salaries of the members of the Legislature by 80 percent.

P.L. 19-83 could have increased the members of the Legislature's salaries from $39,300 to $70,000, while the governor and lieutenant governor will be receiving $120,000 and $100,000 each and municipal mayors—Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands—at $75,000.

The Supreme Court, however, ruled that the salary increases—especially for the Legislators—are unconstitutional including the two previous wage hikes enacted under PLs 4-32 and 7-31.

The advisory commission is in accordance with Article II Section X of the CNMI Constitution where it states the salary of members of the Legislature "may be changed no more than once every four years and upon the recommendation of an advisory commission established by law to make recommendations concerning the compensation of Commonwealth executive, legislative, and judicial officers."

The commission's task is to review the compensation of the members of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government with the salary agreed on based on an existing CPI.

TORRES

From Page 1

name those appointees within 30 days," said Torres.

Today is the 18th day since the law was signed on Sept. 21. Mayors Vicente Santos (Northern Islands), Efraim Atalig (Rota), and Joey Patrick San Nicolas (Tinian) have until Oct. 21 to name their nominees for the commission to be formed, as stated in the law.

"I hope the mayors of Rota, Tinian, and the Northern Islands could expedite your names because I already chose mine. And I ask the local delegation to act on it so that we can move forward on the actual 180 days after the commission is established," said Torres.

He then reminded the community that despite signing the bill into law, marijuana use in the CNMI is still illegal. "It is a very controversial issue. Although I signed the bill into law, that does not mean anybody can use marijuana now."

"We still have 180 days to address all the concerns and issues, and the same time educate the community. I ultimately encourage and remind the community, it does not yet allow to smoke marijuana."

P.L. 20-66 has put a timeframe of 30 days for Torres and the three municipal mayors to name their appointees on the commission and for their respective delegations to confirm them. The commission, once formed, will have 180 days to promulgate the rules and regulations.

"We have ample time so that we can start the ball rolling. I also ask the Legislature to act on a forthcoming bill to address the concerns on the law. This is the first step in legalizing it, 30 days to appoint and for the local delegation to act on the names," said Torres.

"And 180 days to promulgate the rules and regulations and be published at the registrar. They [commission] need to finish [this] in the timeframe. If they do it sooner, then we can exercise our right to smoke [marijuana]."

The law also states that there are places that marijuana use is prohibited like in government buildings, school or school property whether public or private, the Northern Marianas College or in any of its properties unless officials may permit marijuana possession or use on its premises for research purposes.

"We have regulation that you have to be at least 500 feet away from a school, poker arcades is 300 feet. If you live close to the school, if you are within 500 feet, you cannot plant marijuana even if it is residential," said Torres.

"If you are in a residential area that's within 500 feet near the hospital, schools, or a church, then you are not allowed to plant. Follow the law and there won't be anything to worry about. We want to make sure that violators will be prosecuted and fined."

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

The students of Saipan Southern High School take the Red Ribbon Campaign oath during the Red Ribbon month proclamation signing last Thursday.

October is dedicated to Red Ribbon Campaign

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The month of October has been dedicated to honouring the Red Ribbon Campaign, a campaign that was started to spread awareness among the youth and the NMI community of the harmful and life-threatening affects of drugs.

Last Thursday, members of the Superior Court and U.S. District Court for the NMI, the local and federal drug enforcement, the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, and students of Saipan Southern High School gathered at the SSHS library to witness the signing of the proclamation dedicating October to the Red Ribbon movement.

According to District Court Chief Judge Ramona Manglona, the Red Ribbon campaign use to be mainly a federal effort in the CNMI but over the years, the state government has gotten involved greatly resulting in progress for the movement.

Manglona also added that through the movement and the involvement of both federal and state governments, the number of drug-related cases have been dropping in the CNMI, at least in the District Court.

The month will be dedicated to educating the community about preventing the use of drugs in mainly the youth, and also educating the community about what steps can be taken to recover from the affects of drugs.

Last Thursday, aside from the signing of the proclamation, the students of SSHS were administered the Red Ribbon Campaign oath by U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent Ed Talbot that basically swears that they would abstain from the use of drugs.

According to the interim Education commissioner Glenn Muña, the local public school system will always be ready to take on the pledge along with the nation to remain drug free and to promote a healthy community.

Torres said that the drug problem that the CNMI faces is not new but major progress in the battle against drugs has been seen and he encourages students to join the battle.

"It is important that our students stay away from drugs... the minute you start mingling with drugs…it is very difficult to get out. But when you do, we do have assistance and it is never to late to step up and ask for help," he said.

The Red Ribbon proclamation signing was held at the Saipan Southern High School because they won the gate decoration competition last year.

This year's Red Ribbon campaign theme is "Life is your journey, travel drug free."

The Red Ribbon movement was started in the United States following the murder of U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent Enrique Camarena. Camarena was kidnapped and tortured to death in Mexico. The DEA sent Camarena to work undercover in Mexico to investigate a major drug cartel but in 1985, Camarena was found in a shallow grave having been tortured to death by members of the cartel.

Following his murder, angered parents and youth in communities across the country began wearing Red Ribbons as a symbol of their commitment to raise awareness of the killing and destruction caused by drugs in America.

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Happy 40th birthday American Red Cross

The charter to establish the American Red Cross here in the CNMI was signed 40 years ago today. Shortly after the formation of the Commonwealth government in 1978, President Jimmy Carter, who is also the honorary chairman of the Red Cross, authorized that a chapter office be established here in the CNMI.

Over the past 40 years, the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter has always been there to assist the people of the Commonwealth. Local volunteers have provided emergency assistance following countless typhoons and storms, taught thousands of children to swim, and saved lives through CPR and First Aid training or assisted NMI U.S. military families connect with their service members during times of hardship. None of these essential services would have been possible without the selfless generosity of volunteers and donors.

Through its earliest days directed by Gil Ada Sr. to its growth in the '80s and '90s thanks to Rachael Hintzen, Ramon S. Guerrero (Kumoi), Brenda Y. Tenorio, Juan Pan Guerrero, and former governor Pete P. Tenorio, the Red Cross has been a guiding light during difficult times. The Red Cross, through its programs and services, provides comfort and hope to those most vulnerable. During the past few weeks, volunteers once again stepped up and provided help to families on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota that were impacted by Typhoon Mangkhut. "The spirit of volunteerism is alive and well at the Red Cross," said current board chair Tayna Belyeu-Camacho who often reflects on the amazing work of all those associated with the local chapter. "Whether they're representing a Red Cross school club, serving on our board of directors or helping a fire victim at 2am find a safe place to stay, volunteers are the life blood of our Red Cross familia."

The Red Cross continues to expand its work in the community through various programs including its volunteer led Home Fire Campaign that installs free smoke alarms and educates families about fire safety. "I'm humbled everyday by the generosity of our volunteers who turn heartbreak into hope by helping strangers in need" said Juan Diego Tenorio, Disaster Program manager. "As a volunteer led organization it's a privilege and honor to be working everyday with those who only want to help others less fortunate," said John Hirsh, executive director. "Our volunteers are compassionate, collaborative, creative, credible and most importantly committed. The future for the Red Cross will always be bright, thanks to generations of volunteers who will continue to propel the Chapter and its humanitarian mission forward for another 40 years," said Hirsh,

For more information about the Red Cross and how to get involved, call 234-3459 or online at www.redcross.org/nmi. ***(PR)***

Meal plans for UOG students simplified with electronic cards

The University of Guam's Information Technology department has developed an electronic meal card system to track students' use of their meal plans at the dormitory dining facility and convenience store.

"We launched the meal plan last year using a paper system, but this new card system allows for more efficient tracking and also provides students more flexibility for how they want to manage their meal plan," said Jonathan Triplett, Director of Residence Halls at UOG.

The meal plan provides 120 all-you-can-eat meals per semester, which students can redeem starting on Aug. 14 at the dormitory dining facility

for lunch and dinner from Monday to Friday, lunch on Saturday, and dinner on Sunday. A takeout option from the cafeteria is also available if a request is submitted to the Director of Residence Halls. The cafeteria does not serve individual meals outside of the semester meal plan.

The meal card can also be used at the dormitory convenience store, which has a variety of drinks, snacks, and hot lunches.

Each student staying in the dormitories is required to have the meal plan. Students not living on campus can also sign up for a meal plan through the Residence Halls Office on a semester basis. Compared to other universities, it is one of the most affordable meal plans at $800 per semester, or about $6.25 per meal.

UOG is expected to welcome 966 new students this semester, with 180 students living on campus.

Prior to the implementation of meal plan cards, students were cooking for themselves in the dormitory kitchens.

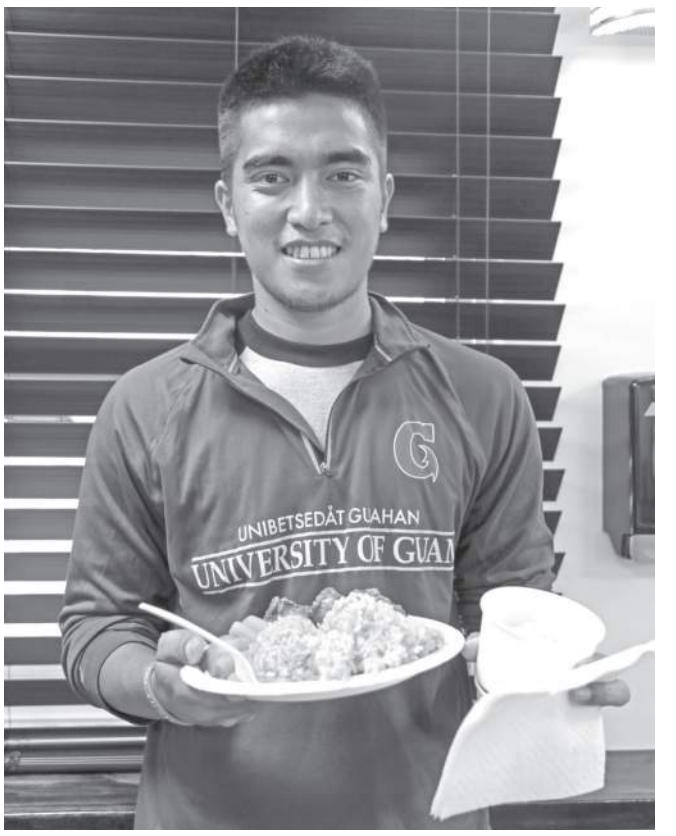
Chief information officer Rommel Hidalgo and his team set up the card system, which scans into a computer program using a personalized QR code. The system was tested this past summer with a cohort of study abroad students who were residing in the dormitories.

"I think with these new technologies that we are implementing, it shows the students that the University is moving up as far as technology and implementation," Hidalgo said.

LSG Sky Chefs is on its second year of a three-year contract to both cater the dining service and operate and supply the convenience store in the dorms.

The dining facility is located on the second floor of Dormitory 3 and provides meal service from noon to 2pm and from 5pm to 7pm Monday through Friday, from 11am to 2pm on Saturday, and from 5pm to 7pm on Sunday.

The convenience store is located on the first floor of Dormitory 1 and is open daily from 8am to 7pm, with the possibility of change. ***(PR)***



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
University of Guam dormitory resident Elias David enjoys a meal at the dormitory cafeteria. Starting this semester, students with meal plans will be issued electronic cards to track their 120 meals per semester.

NMI Triskelions celebrate TGP's golden year

The Northern Mariana Islands Council joined their fellow brothers and sisters around the world in celebrating the 50th founding anniversary of the Tau Gamma Phi or the Triskelions' Grand Fraternity last Thursday, Oct. 4, at Club C.

Close to 30 members of the NMI Council, including those from their counterparts from Tau Gamma Sigma or Triskelion's Grand Sorority, attended the celebration that had Philippine honorary consul to the CNMI Glicerio Arago as guest of honor.

Arago, in his short message, said that he too was a member of the Upsilon Sigma Rho fraternity while studying at the University of the East in Manila, Philippines.

"The most important is the brotherhood. It is a very exciting experience to be part of any association, not only in a fraternity, because you get to meet a lot of people and also help one another," said Arago.

"You also stand for the objective of the organization. "The [Tau Gamma Phi] has become a very strong organization. I wish you all the best and also ask you to help us promote the welfare of our *kababayans* [fellow Filipinos]."

It was a night of fun and laughter as members enjoyed parlor games and the company of each other. A video of the Triskelions' grand celebration at the Rizal Park in Manila, where thousands of brothers and sisters attended, was also shown.

The Triskelion's Grand Fraternity/Sorority has also entered the Guinness World Record in forming the world's largest human seal. More than 25,000 members participated in the record-breaking feat that was also held last Thursday.

The NMI Council chapter was officially formed on Jan. 27, 2007 on Saipan and was later incorporated under the CNMI Office of Registrar of Corporation as a non-governmental organization.

Erick Dizon and Edwin Orejola helped form the council after learning that there are a number of brothers and sisters in the CNMI through a daily Filipino music program where Triskelions' listeners frequently greet each other.

The first gathering was during relief efforts for victims of Typhoon Reming (Durian) in Bicol in November 2006.

Since then, they became involved in various community projects like in the annual Lenten trek up Mt. Tapochau and had been present in various United Filipino Organization events.

Four student leaders—Rod Confessor, Roy Ordinario, Talek Pablo, and Tito Venida—from the University of the Philippines College of Arts and Sciences founded the Triskelion Grand Fraternity on Oct. 4, 1968. The Triskelion Grand Sorority followed three months after on Jan. 17, 1968.

From there, it branched out to other groups—the U.P. Triskelions Alumni Inc., Triskelion Youth Movement, Triskelion Alumni Organization, and professionals in the law, judiciary, paralegals, medicine, business, information technology, computer engineers, technicians, business process outsourcing, government armed services, seafarers, and teachers.

Philippine chapters can be found in colleges, universities, and community-based organizations. Chapters were also established in 30 other countries like the United States, Canada, Australia, Italy, Saudi Arabia, Spain, United Kingdom, Japan, South Korea, Norway, and the Pacific Island in Vanuatu and Guam. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Philippine honorary consul to the CNMI Glicerio Arago, standing back center, joins some of the members of the NMI Council of the Triskelions' Grand Fraternity during their 50th anniversary celebration last week at Club C.

MVA: Tourists comprised most of BBQ and Beer fest guests

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion noted that the larger crowd of the 2nd Annual Marianas Beer and Barbecue Fest 2018 was comprised mostly of international guests. ***(See photo gallery on Page 13)***

» D2C wins BBQ cook-off

One of the younger festivals in the Marianas, as noted by Concepcion over the weekend, the Marianas Beer and Barbecue Fest 2018 has attracted more tourists and locals alike to participate in the festival at the Garapan Fishing Base compared to last year's, which was held at the same venue.

"We are very happy with the turnout. We have a larger crowd than last year, which is good," he said, noting that MVA preparations for the festival was about six to eight months.

"We have a lot of overseas guests enjoying the event as well, so it's good, while a lot of our locals came out and supported this event, so I am very happy with that," he continued.

Two of the main highlights of the festival were the barbecue cook-off hosted by Chun Ji Restaurant and the Beer Olympics, which was hosted by Roil Soil.

The barbecue cook-off attracted only three teams of different backgrounds, however, the team to win it all was mostly inspired by local roots.

Concepcion

Ken Kalen and Eric Palacios, who comprises team D2C, won the first place prize for the barbecue cook-off by the way they know best: A family secret recipe.

"Since it's a beer fest, we tried to make our barbecue like a chaser—instead of a meal, we incorporated [elements that go well with beer]," Kalen said. He noted that they tackled the competition according to the situation, which was a complimentary partner to beer, instead of barbecue as a meal.

"The ingredients we used, you can find in your pantry. It's no secret actually, it's a local ingredient—everybody uses it," he continued, without disclosing the secrets to his recipe.

D2C went up against chefs from Hyatt Regency Saipan and a team that goes by the name of LT.

"The sauce of Hyatt's short ribs was pretty good," said Kalen, adding that the Hyatt team did not shy away from utilizing herbs and spices.

Team D2C won $50 worth of festival tokens and a two-night stay for four at Mango Resort complete with two pool passes.

Barbecue cook-off judges include 2018 Miss Marianas Celine Cabrera, Triple J's Perry Inos, and Imperial Pacific Intl. (CNMI) LLC's Tao Xing.

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Torres brings EADs concerns to Homeland

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has sent a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen regarding the issue brought by CNMI foreign workers that are either under humanitarian parole status or the employment authorization document. His letter is in connection with the meeting that took place on Sept. 23 with foreign workers at the Marianas Business Plaza.

Torres wrote Nielsen to bring to Homeland's attention the issue as it has an impact in the CNMI. "Following the federalization of the CNMI's immigration system in 2008, many foreign citizens with U.S. citizen children were granted Humanitarian Parole to maintain legal status and prevent their separation under the federal immigration regime. Under the parole status, many have assumed jobs through their subsequent applications for [EADs]."

Foreign workers from Bangladesh, China, the Philippines, Japan, and Korea are concerned on their daily lives since they have to stop working while their documents are being processed. Some of the foreign workers were either had minor children who were U.S. citizens or were given transitional conditional permits (umbrella permits).

Torres mentioned that to Nielsen in the letter. "In recent years, there has been concerns over the timing of processing periods for both the humanitarian parole and the EAD, which has caused disruptions in the employment of these individuals. As you are aware, the humanitarian parole permits expire on Dec. 31, 2018 along with granted EADs."

"However, parolees can only apply for EADs following the approval of their humanitarian parole renewal request. This period of processing between the expiration of the humanitarian parole and the approval of the EAD leaves the nearly 2,000 parolees unable to legally continue employment in the CNMI."

He said the issue on continued employment also poses a problem to the CNMI economy. "As 2,000 individuals represent 10 approximately 10 percent of our workforce, this gap in work authorization poses a significant challenge for employers, the economy, and for the families affected."

"To remedy this issue, I ask for your assistance and consideration to provide for an extension of the "240-day rule" under 8 CFR 274a. 12(b)(20), so that they may be authorized to continue their employment under the previous EAD pending the adjudication and approval of their renewed EAD."

Torres added that he is hopeful Nielsen and her department would consider the CNMI's unique nature. "I understand and respect [DHS's] responsibilities on this issue, and I appreciate your understanding of the unique nature of the CNMI's circumstances as we continue to transition into the national immigration system."

"Within the short period in which the CNMI has been placed in the transitionary period, we have made tremendous progress toward the mandates of [U.S.] Congress, however, many issues, such as this, still require additional consideration in order to prevent disruption to the economy and the well-being of our people."

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DOL job fair in Kagman attracts over 50 participants

The Department of Labor's Job Fair at the Kagman High School cafeteria attracted over 50 jobseekers and over 20 employers both from the public and private sector during a midday count last Saturday.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, DOL director of Employment Services Eugene Tebuteb noted that the location of the job fair intentionally targeted residents in the northern area of Saipan.

"We want to hit as many villages here on Saipan as possible," he said. Tebuteb further noted that most job fairs were conducted at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

"We wanted to change locations to make it more convenient for residents of the surrounding community. We still have several other villages to hit, but [by setting up job fairs in other areas of Saipan] we can be all inclusive," he continued.

According to Tebuteb, the DOL has been issuing out feedback forms to employers and job seekers to take not of possible improvements to future job fairs.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Twenty-four employers from both the public and private sector entertained over 50 jobseekers over the weekend at the Kagman High School cafeteria as the Department of Labor hosted a job fair.

DOL acting secretary Gil San Nicolas told *Saipan Tribune* that their target for the job fair was at least 100.

"We have [several] participating employers, so on behalf of DOL secretary Vicky Benavente, we thank them for participating. We hopefully would have more numbers at the end of the day," he said.

"We are hoping that jobseekers who [attend the job fair] get hired, because that is the goal of the job fair," he continued.

According to San Nicolas, the DOL is already discussing the next job fair, which takes about two to three months of planning.

"…I am pretty sure we are going to have another one," said San Nicolas. "Ultimately, the goal is to have employers hire more available and qualified U.S. citizens—it is a process we need to continue," he continued, adding that he was satisfied with the number of participating employers.

San Nicolas noted that the job fairs hosted by DOL is in line with U.S. Public Law 115-218. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

Govt, non-profit organizations, individuals urged to apply for assistance

The CNMI Office of the Governor, Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Office of Public Assistance in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency is highly encouraging local government entities and non-profit organizations who sustained property loss or damage from Typhoon Mangkhut to apply for Public Assistance.

Public Assistance provides reimbursement grants to state/territorial and local governments, as well as certain non-profit entities to assist them with the response to and recovery from disasters. Specifically, the program provides assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the permanent restoration of infrastructure.

In order for an entity to be deemed eligible for Federal Assistance, applicants must first complete and submit a Request for Public Assistance form to the CNMI Public Assistance Office. Requests for this Form may be emailed to Ms. Reyna Saures at reynasaures.pa@gmail.com or contact the PA Office at 664-2411-14.

Individual Assistance continues to be made available for residents.

Individual Assistance is provided by FEMA directly to eligible individuals and families who have sustained losses due to disasters.

The following sites are open for CNMI residents to register for Individual Assistance:

Rota: Mayor's Office – Today through Friday, from 9am to 5pm.

Saipan: Joeten-Kiyu Public Library – Today through Thursday of next week, Oct. 11, from 9am to 5pm.

Tinian: Dept. of Commerce Bldg. (by Municipal Baseball Field in San Jose) – Today through Thursday, Oct. 11, from 8am to 4pm.

Currently, the best method to register for disaster assistance in the CNMI is by speaking directly with Disaster Survivor Assistance personnel. While disaster survivors can also register online by visiting www.disasterassistance.gov or by calling 1-800-621-3362, registering in-person is preferable because the Disaster Survivor Assistance staff is able to ensure the CNMI addresses are accurately reflected in our system.

What to bring with you

To ensure a faster, more efficient application process, obtain the following information PRIOR to heading to the nearest Disaster Assistance designated site:

- Social Security Number (one per household)
- Address of the damaged home or apartment
- Description of the damage
- Information about insurance coverage (ensure you obtain policy no. information)
- Telephone number
- Mailing address
- Bank account and routing numbers for direct deposit of funds

SBA stands postured to help

Low-interest federal disaster loans are available to businesses and residents as a result of President Trump's major disaster declaration, U.S. Small Business Administration's Administrator Linda McMahon announced.

"SBA is strongly committed to providing Rota, Saipan and Tinian with the most effective and customer-focused response possible and with access to federal disaster loans to help businesses and residents affected by this disaster," said McMahon. "Getting our businesses and communities up and running after a disaster is our highest priority at SBA."

To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, survivors must first contact the Federal Emergency Management Agency atwww.disasterassistance.gov. As soon as Federal-State Disaster Recovery Centers open throughout the affected area, SBA will provide one-on-one assistance to disaster loan applicants. Additional information and details on the location of disaster recovery centers is available by calling the SBA Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955.

Disaster relief and recovery is a whole community effort

Disaster recovery is a whole community effort. Recovery programs such as Individual Assistance and Public Assistance are just one part of that effort. FEMA and CNMI work closely with voluntary agencies, local government, and the private sector to assist survivors in meeting their disaster-caused, unmet needs.

Follow CNMI on social media

The CNMI Joint Information Center (JIC) urges the community to follow the following social media platforms to get the latest weather updates and information:

- CNMI EOC State Warning Point Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/cnmieocswp/
- CNMI Office of the Governor Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CNMIGov/
- Governor Ralph DLG. Torres Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ralphdlg.torres/
- CNMI Joint Information Center: https://www.facebook.com/JICNMI/

The CNMI JIC also encourages residents to download HSEM's readyCNMI App available for FREE in the Apple iStore or Google PlayStore to receive the latest weather updates and notifications.

For more information or media inquiries, contact Nadine Deleon Guerrero, HSEM External Affairs Officer at ncdlg@cnmihsem.gov.mp. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

October 9, 2000

CPA tackles Navy's seaport concerns

Citing its significant contributions to the revival of the CNMI's economy, the Commonwealth Ports Authority is intensifying efforts to improve facilities and services provided to visiting vessels by the United States Navy at the Saipan International Harbor. Board Chair Roman S. Palacios disclosed a delegation of CPA officials recently met with U.S. Navy officials in Guam where issues surrounding the vessels' needs and problems upon docking at the Saipan seaport were discussed. CPA Executive Director Carlos H. Salas, Saipan seaport manager Tony B. Cabrera and CPA Board Member Frank Guerrero met with COMNAV Marianas Commander Mike Dodge, Lt. Aaron Gates, Water Front operations manager for Raytheon Guam Jerry Hammond and marine transportation officer Dick Riddle. CPA and U.S. Navy officials, according to Mr. Palacios, discussed military vessels' logistic needs and problems upon visiting the Northern Marianas.

New study for home financing eyed

The House of Representatives has finally passed legislation providing tax credits to employers who hire persons with disabilities after initial deliberation on the floor courted opposition from some members. HB 12-17, authored by Rep. Jesus T. Attao, will deduct up to $10,000 from the business gross receipt tax paid by companies for each person with disabilities they employ. The tax credit will be equal to the wages or salary paid to the employee, according to the measure. It is now up for Senate voting where it is expected to be amended following some concerns raised by the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

October 9, 2004

Governor wants at least $218M for 2005

The Babauta administration wants no less than $218 million for fiscal year 2005—a budget level that is over $5 million more than the House of Representatives' approved spending limit. Gov. Juan N. Babauta said in an interview that the additional revenues would come from the tax amnesty law that is projected to generate at least $2.1 million and the revenue enhancement bill that is estimated to provide additional $3 million to $6 million. The bill, which has already been passed by the Legislature, has yet to be signed by the governor, though. The governor expressed confidence that the Senate would raise the budget to the level amenable to the administration.

House reintroduces budget resolution

The House of Representatives reintroduced and adopted Friday a new concurrent resolution on the fiscal year 2005 budget providing for the same appropriation level of $212.651 million. The reintroduction was made after the Senate on Wednesday rejected the House' previously adopted concurrent resolution. House Concurrent Resolution 14-1 was defeated in the Senate 7-1 on Wednesday, with only Sen. Thomas Villagomez voting yes. Minority leader Sen. Pete Reyes, who was absent during the session, said Thursday that the resolution should have been accepted to allow the Senate to pass or amend the budget. The House leadership has since talked with the Senate majority and agreed to do the budget resolution one more time.

October 9, 2005

NMI takes submerged lands issue to Supreme Court

The CNMI government has taken the dispute over 264,000-square miles of submerged lands in the Northern Marianas to the U.S. Supreme Court, filing Thursday a petition that seeks to review and reverse a ruling of an appellate court that affirmed the federal government's ownership of the lands. Assistant attorneys general James Livingstone and Kenneth Barden petitioned the High Court for a writ of certiorari, which would compel the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit to certify the records of the case to the Supreme Court for the latter's review of possible errors by the appellate court. The Ninth Circuit issued its judgment against the CNMI government last Feb. 24. In its ruling, the Ninth Circuit rejected the CNMI's appeal against a Saipan federal court order that declared ownership of the submerged lands in favor of the federal government.

Finance draft regs for new sports lottery

The Department of Finance has proposed a $50,000 maximum jackpot for a new sports lottery game in the Northern Marianas. The Marianas Sports Lottery, to be operated by Marianas Lottery, is a lottery game based on the outcome of a game or a special play. The Finance Department drafted regulations for the operation of the lottery game and it is now accepting comments from the public. The proposed regulations require Marianas Lottery, during the sports lottery season, to make available an official program that lists the events for that play program.

Torres signs several bills into law

On Oct. 5, 2018, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed into law the following bills:

■ Senate Local Bill, 20-7, to establish an honor scholarship for the valedictorian and salutatorian of the Tinian High School.

To promote and support educational excellence, the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation find that the top two highest grade point averages of the Tinian High School should be awarded with an honor scholarship from the Municipality of Tinian in the amount of $5,000 and $2,500, respectively.

The amount shall be a one-time scholarship each year to be used towards pursuing an associate's or bachelor's degree at an accredited college or university in the Commonwealth, United States or its territories for education needs not limited to tuition, textbooks, school supplies, transportation and housing.

Unanimously passed by the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation, this bill becomes Tinian Local Law 20-16.

■ House Bill 20-124, HD1, to authorize and establish expedited partner therapy for certain sexually transmitted infections.

The Legislature finds that allowing healthcare providers to treat both patients and their partners through Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) has many long-term public health benefits in managing sexually transmitted diseases. Although EPT is an effective treatment, the lack of explicit allowance for this practice in the law may prevent providers and pharmacies from using EPT as an option, therefore, it is necessary to create a statute for clinical practice.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signs four bills into law, joined by House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan, Rep. Joseph Guerrero, and Rep. Angel Demapan.

Authored by Rep. Jose I. Itibus, this bill becomes Public Law 20-69.

■ House Bill 20-133, HD1, to rename Building P of the Northern Marianas College in As Terlaje Hill, Saipan as the Agnes Manglona McPhetres Administrative Building in recognition of her untiring and outstanding contributions to the development of higher education in the Commonwealth.

From 1983 to 1999, McPhetres served as the first President of the Northern Marianas College. Through her leadership, McPhetres and her team were able to get the newly founded college accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) in June of 1985.

Authored by House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan, this bill becomes Public Law 20-70.

■ Senate Bill 20-111, SD1, to establish an advisory commission on the compensation of Commonwealth executive, legislative, and judicial officers.

The purpose of this bill is to comply with the CNMI Superior Court ruling that salary increases for the legislature must be calculated based off a specific accepted Composite Price Index (CPI), within the percentage change of the accepted CPI for the period since the last salary increase, and no greater than the maximum salary recommended by the advisory commission.

Within 15 days of the effective date of this Act, an advisory commission on the compensation of Commonwealth executive, legislative, and judicial officers shall consist of seven members as follows:

■ Three members shall be appointed by the governor;

■ Two members shall be appointed by the president of the Senate;

■ Two members shall be appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

Offered unanimously by the Senate, this bill becomes Public Law 20-71. ***(PR)***

UOG'S COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Arts and Humanities Events this Month

Aligned with the recent declaration of October as Arts and Humanities Month, the University of Guam's College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) will be hosting the following events:

"Bonding: An Exhibition of Contemporary Printmaking": 10am-5pm weekdays and 10am-2pm Saturdays until Oct. 26 at the Isla Center for the Arts in Dean's Circle House #15. Admission: Free.

"The Greatest Show" music concert featuring the Latte Tones and Mangilao Hot Jazz: 7:30pm on Oct. 18 and 19 at the UOG Fine Arts Theatre. Admission: $5.

Bali Field School film screening: 2pm-3pm on Oct. 11 and 17 in the CLASS Lecture Hall. Admission: $10.

CHamoru Language Senatorial Forum: 6pm on Oct. 15 at the CLASS Lecture Hall. Admission: Free.

Senatorial Forum by the Political Science Student Association: 6pm on Oct. 23, 24, and 25 in the CLASS Lecture Hall.

The college hosts events throughout the academic year to foster and perpetuate the University's mission to enlighten, discover, and serve through the liberal arts, social sciences, and humanities. The College has a long tradition of sponsoring and co-sponsoring events on important academic, intellectual, educational, community, and public policy issues. All members of the community are invited to participate and attend public events hosted and sponsored by the college. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, DR-4235-MP
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Tel: (670) 664-2374 | Fax: (670) 664-2408 | Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION TO BID
ITB18-GOV-131

Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters for the Kagman Community Center

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Office are soliciting sealed bids for supply and installation of typhoon shutters for the Kagman Community Center, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on September 26, 2018 at the Office of Management & Budget, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A $25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. **All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.**

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001 and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference for this project on Wednesday, October 10, 2018, 10:00 am ChST at the Kagman Community Center, Kagman Saipan. Questions concerning this project shall be directed to Antonette DLG. Norita in writing by e-mail: anorita.hm@gmail.com, on or before October 12, 2018 to the Office of Management & Budget, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked *ITB18-GOV-131 Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters for the Kagman Community Center, Saipan.* For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than **9:00 a.m. ChST October 22, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 a.m. ChST October 22, 2018 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than October 22, 2018 and the bid documents must be received no later than October 31, 2018. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at *10:00 a.m. ChST October 31, 2018.* However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at *10:00 a.m. ChST October 22, 2018.*

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:
a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:
1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 120 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor's Authorized Representative

Herman S. Sablan, Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, DR-4235-MP
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP18-GOV-132

Supply and Installation of Generator Set, Generator House and Water Pumps – Kagman Community Center

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the CNMI Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified contractors to supply and install a generator set complete with an Automatic Transfer Switch, a generator house and water pumps for the Kagman Community Center on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, currently in effect, and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the CNMI.

The project package will be available for pick up beginning September 26, 2018 at the Office of the Governor, Office of Management and Budget, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A pre-proposal meeting regarding this project will be held at 10:00 a.m. on October 10, 2018 at the Kagman Community Center, Kagman Saipan.

Questions about this request for proposal shall be addressed to the HMGP Office attn.: Antonette DLG. Norita, in writing via e-mail: anorita.hm@gmail.com or facsimile (670) 664-2408 no later than 4:00 p.m., ChST, October 12, 2018.

The total proposal length shall not exceed 15 pages in length. A contractor that submits a proposal as a prime contractor cannot also submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, as a subcontractor, a company may be included in multiple proposals by different contractors.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1.	Qualifications and experience on similar projects	40%
2.	Work load and resources to accomplish work	10%
3.	Project Approach & Schedule	20%
4.	Cost	30%

Performance time for completion of this project is 240 calendar days upon issuance of notice to proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 240 calendar days, the contract price and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top 3 ranked contractors. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified contractor to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The successful proposers will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Proposals must be sealed and marked **RFP18-GOV-132 Supply and Installation of Generator System, Generator House and Water Pumps – Kagman Community Center.** For proposers within the CNMI, one original and three (3) copies of the proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST, October 24, 2018. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of intent to propose. Notices of intent to propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST, October 24, 2018 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net

For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and three (3) copies of the sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, October 24, 2018 and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than November 02, 2018. Failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

BREACH OF ETHICAL STANDARDS

(To be part of Solicitation for Quotes, ITBs and RFPs)

- Gratuities. It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefore. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725(a).
- Kickbacks. It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of subcontractor or order. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725(b)
- Contingent Fees. It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-730.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor's Authorized Representative

Herman S. Sablan
Director of Procurement and Supply

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

To protect South Florida, pick up pace of Everglades protection

Saving the Everglades from sea-level rise means much more to South Florida than just protecting panthers, alligators and the bald eagle.

Without the Everglades as a source of drinking water and a buffer to hurricanes, the people living in South Florida are the ones who risk becoming an endangered species.

The Everglades guards our western flank during hurricanes, absorbing drenching rains and rising waters. And long after storm season passes, its fresh water replenishes the underground supplies we tap to drink.

But if a rising sea creeps up from the south and swallows parts of the Everglades, the storm surge we face on the Atlantic Coast after hurricanes could appear from the west, too.

And if the rising tide turns the freshwater Everglades salty, our region's western drinking water wells are at risk, too.

So just as South Florida communities are collaborating to address the flooding expected from a two-foot rise in sea level between now and 2060, it's more important than ever to accelerate Everglades protection by restoring its once-abundant freshwater flow — the biggest and best muscle for keeping saltwater at bay.

To do so means reworking the restoration plan to accommodate the faster rate of sea-level rise we're experiencing, provoked by the warming atmosphere.

It's likely going to mean building bigger reservoirs and other water storage options, as well as more projects that allow the water to flow under roadways and past other man-made obstacles.

Without question, it's going to take a faster flow of dollars for such big-ticket fixes. The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan was supposed to cost $8 billion when launched in 2000 as a partnership between the state and federal governments. But because of funding delays, construction problems, legal fights and political wrangling, it's now expected to cost more than $16 billion.

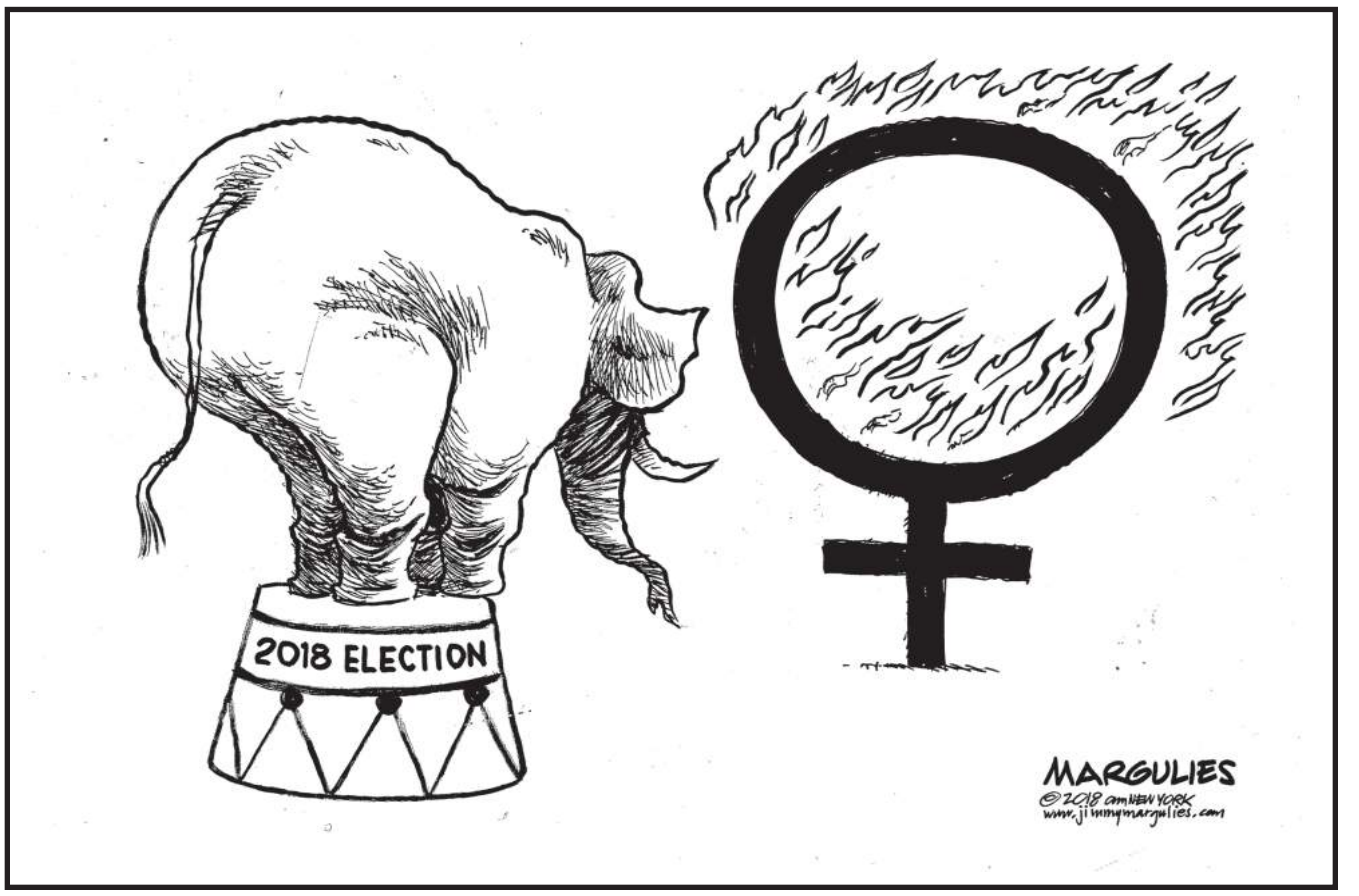
It sounds like a lot, and it is. But the nation has a lot riding on Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties. Among metro areas, South Florida is the nation's 11th largest in economic activity, with an annual GDP of more than $318 billion.

It's unfortunate that about 70 years ago, we changed the flow of the Everglades to make room for sugar cane fields and housing developments. Yes, we needed the canal and drainage system to manage flooding in South Florida's core. But over-engineering stripped the ecosystem of the land that allowed shallow waters to flow south — unfettered, and slowly filtered — from Lake Okeechobee to Florida Bay.

Worse, for decades we have allowed water laden with fertilizer and other pollutants to flow into and damage the famed River of Grass.

Like a dying patient desperate for a cure, the Everglades "has no chance of surviving" without implementing the restoration plan, said Randall Parkinson, a Florida International

See PROTECT on Next Page



Kavanaugh's confirmation shows Republicans' brutal politics

By JONATHAN BERNSTEIN
Bloomberg News

Jonathan Bernstein is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering politics and policy. He taught political science at the University of Texas at San Antonio and DePauw University and wrote A Plain Blog About Politics.

The big two lessons of Brett Kavanaugh's nomination and confirmation are that U.S. politics right now is party politics – and that the Republican Party has fully absorbed the style and principles of Newt Gingrich, the Tea Party, and other influences that tell it to never compromise and always exploit all short-term advantages as much as possible.

It's impossible to understand the Kavanaugh fight without understanding that politics goes through the parties. That's true on a personal level: Kavanaugh was personally close to and had worked with many prominent Republicans. The key ones were White House Counsel Don McGahn, who probably had more direct influence on selecting him than anyone else, and George W. Bush, who reportedly worked the phones hard to get him confirmed, with a special emphasis on talking with Susan Collins. Parties are (among other things) networks of individual partisans, and that means that within specialized areas – such as the top lawyers and the politicians who work with them – strong personal relationships develop. That helps a lot when things go wrong.

Parties aren't just personal, however. They are also coalitions of interest groups and reflect long-standing arrangements involving settled policy preferences, and even more importantly in this case, temporarily settled agreements about which groups the party will defer to in various policy areas.

Politicians may not be given explicit orders from a single party boss sitting at the top of an organization chart that they must go along … but they clearly get the message. That explains why Democrats, including several up for election in Republican states, almost unanimously opposed Kavanaugh (and the only exception, West Virginia's Joe Manchin, was widely thought to be an available "no" vote if needed).

Precisely because feminists and other groups focused on social issues have successfully become far more central to Democratic politics, especially when it comes to the judiciary, I suspect that the 48-to-1 vote against Kavanaugh among Democrats differed from 1991, when 11 Democrats voted for Clarence Thomas.

On the Republican side, meanwhile, things are the same as with the Democrats, except more formalized with the role of the Federalist Society as the arbiter and protector of Republican orthodoxy in judicial selections. Indeed: In terms of policy, the key event in the presidential nomination battle in 2016 was Donald Trump's willingness to commit to cede the presidential power of appointment in judicial matters to regular Republicans, ensuring that his selection would be very conservative. And senators were equally willing to go along. In fact, the only defection, Alaska's Lisa Murkowski, was a party story too. Murkowski's ties to the party are unusually weak because she was defeated for re-nomination in 2010, only to come back and win the general election as a write-in candidate. As a result, she probably has more independence from her party than any other senator – even the nominally independent Bernie Sanders and Angus King.

If Kavanaugh was a party story, then how it played out was mostly about the particular kind of party Republicans have become.

In terms of policy, it was clear from the start that Anthony Kennedy would be replaced by an extremely conservative justice. Even that was notable. Barack Obama and Bill Clinton settled for relatively mainstream liberals in their Supreme Court nominations who were confirmed. George W. Bush and Donald Trump have nominated people from the most conservative edge of the conservative mainstream.

Kavanaugh, however, isn't just ideologically a hard-liner; he also has a long history of strong partisanship. That's why his nomination to the D.C. Circuit Court was bitterly opposed by Democrats when George W. Bush was president. Selecting Kavanaugh wasn't just maximizing the conservative ideological advantage on the court; it was a deliberate poke in the eye to the minority party – and that from a president who won narrowly and failed to win a popular vote plurality, and whose party had the narrowest Senate majority possible.

Faced with a Republican majority in the Senate in 2016, Obama sought to compromise – nominating an older moderate liberal, Merrick Garland. Republicans didn't accept that compromise, and didn't seek to negotiate; they simply closed ranks and refused to consider any Obama selection. During the Trump presidency, they've treated the narrowest possible electoral victories as an invitation to select exactly who they would have chosen if Trump had won in a landslide and brought 60 senators with him. And even when Kavanaugh turned out to be unpopular – and then even when he faced serious allegations of sexual assault – they never backed down.

Kavanaugh's elevation is a huge victory for that kind of take-no-prisoners approach to politics, just as the elevation of Neil Gorsuch was last year. Whether it's a good long-term strategy for the party is harder to say at this point. We'll know more after the 2018 and 2020 elections. We'll know more when we see how radical the court is really going to be, and how the rest of the political system will react. When it comes to policy, Republican radicalism has been a loser on health care so far, but a winner on taxes.

And regardless of how it works as a party strategy, radicalism – refusing to compromise – has been terrible for the health of democracy in the United States.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Our call to duty

By JOHN P. CURRIER, MICHAEL R. LEHNERT AND RICHARD L. KELLY
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

On Nov. 6, Americans will have the privilege to participate in our system of democracy in an event traditionally known as Election Day, when we will vote for candidates aspiring to federal, state and local public office. Moreover, we will have the opportunity to present to our nation and our world a new generation of American leadership. There is no greater power in our democracy than the voice of "we the people" and no greater duty or obligation for each citizen than to be an informed voter.

Our nation faces a range of security and economic threats, some real, some imagined as we go to the polls to vote on Election Day. But as a nation we are blessed with much strength that, when coupled with courageous leadership and temperance, can prevail in any situation. While some of these threats are international, our view is that the greatest threat lies within our own United States. It's an existential threat to our democracy, civil society, national solvency, and international standing. We may well be living in the most dangerous period of our lifetime, on par with the Cold War.

Constitutionally, our system of government — and the manner in which it executes the nation's business — is equally divided into three branches: executive, legislative, and judicial each with a distinct function but with the authority to check the others' exercise of power. Today, we find ourselves without effective congressional oversight of the executive branch. Left unchanged, we can expect the chief executive to further push an authoritarian agenda while remaining untempered in his actions both domestically and internationally. The constitutional checks and balances that we learned in grammar school will be rendered ineffectual. This is a frightening prospect.

The authors of this article — all lifelong independent voters — do not come to this assessment lightly. Backed by more than a century of active duty service in our nation's armed forces, through years of post-active duty civic service, and because of our profound love for our country and constitution, we can no longer remain silent or stand idly by as this frightening scenario continues to divide our nation and erode the principals established by our Founding Fathers.

Other than exercising our right to vote, defended by the very men and women who fought and continue to fight courageously to preserve our democracy, our engagement in the political process has been minimal. Through a collective gut check, we arrived at a crossroads: how would we explain our inaction to those who matter most — our families, our friends, and our colleagues – if we remain conspicuously silent in this time of extreme polarity in our nation. Those who see us as people who spent their lives defending our Constitution will ask why, as senior military leaders, we failed to act.

If we are truthful to ourselves, as voters, we should question the failures of our current state of governance. All Americans must honestly ask themselves if they are comfortable with a political process that encourages polarization over progress, the use and influence of "dark money" without accountability, and a leader who routinely presents untruths as facts, and facts as "fake news" while dismissing the free press as an enemy of the people. We must ask ourselves if we are content with an administration, abetted by Congress, that preaches hatred and distrust, prefers the company of dictators over democratically elected leaders, dismisses the intelligence assessments of seasoned professionals and that seems to move aimlessly from one self-inflicted crisis to another.

Ours is a call to duty, just as it should be for any American who is justifiably concerned at the way in which the pathway to responsible governance has gone dangerously astray. We must demand a new generation of congressional leadership, regardless of party affiliation, that exemplifies the virtues we as members of the military demanded of one another — integrity above all, courage to stand up against wrong, service over self, dignity in all interactions, and extending a helping hand to a shipmate who has stumbled. We need members of Congress to set an example of respect and bipartisanship that, for decades, served our country well. We must demand the reestablishment of an environment of bipartisan cooperation in which compromise reflects the will of the people and results in progress toward the greater good. We must demand accountability from our elected representatives and seek the truth no matter how uncomfortable the facts.

We are shamed by a government that no longer honors the basic precepts of our democracy: justice, truth, courage, caring, and integrity; a government that fails to accept and respect the very values that we collectively spent over 100 years of active duty service to defend. We deserve better; you deserve better; America deserves better.

VADM (ret) John Currier served 38 years in the US Coast Guard retiring as the Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard. He is an independent business consultant and lives in Traverse City, Mich.

MajGen (ret) Mike Lehnert served 30 years in the US Marine Corps, retiring as the Commander of Marine Corps Installations West. He lives in Williamsburg, Mich., and serves on several boards.

LtGen (ret) Rick Kelly served 35 years in the US Marine Corps retiring as the Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics. He lives in Arlington, Va., and serves on several boards.

'Clean meat' (or 'Frankenfood') will lead to tough choices

By RICHARD WILLIAMS
Tribune News Service

Richard Williams is a senior affiliated scholar with the Mercatus Center at George Mason University and a former director for social sciences at the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition in the Food and Drug Administration.

The national conversation that People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals have so long desired is coming, but not how most people expected.

Some call it "clean meat." Others call it "Frankenfood." Call it what you want, but it is meat — chemically and nutritionally — that's never been part of any animal. A two-day conference recently hosted by the Good Food Institute in Berkeley, Calif., included 7,000 virtual and physical participants and a long list of speakers to discuss its advantages and challenges.

Regardless of what we choose (or are allowed) to call it, clean meat offers exciting possible solutions to some of the biggest scientific problems facing our planet.

It's a relatively new technology that harmlessly takes cells from animals and places them in a culture, providing nutrients and other compounds that allow them to grow. Once grown, they are stimulated to form muscle protein fibers and formed into three-dimensional structures. Something similar happens in medicine with synthesized human tissue engineering.

Despite growing interest in the clean meat movement, we will not break from 2 million years of eating animals and 10,000 years of domesticating them for food without massive debates. The first is already raging: Should we call it "meat?" Future debates are likely to revolve around the ramifications for the planet.

Some people aren't ready for it. Livestock in Missouri brings in over $3 billion to the state. At the behest of local ranchers, Missouri law now says that if any plant or cell-based products that aren't "derived from harvested production of livestock or poultry" mention an actual meat's name, the imposters could face up to a year in jail. Of course, food manufacturers know that it's nearly impossible to sell foods without names that consumers recognize.

Even veggie burgers, which have been around for 35 years and aren't going anywhere, aren't exempt (nor are other plant-based meat products). Perhaps the law's backers know that natural meat, poultry and fish face a more substantial threat now.

Environmentalists might feel conflicted about the rise of clean meat. In the past, many have been in the pro-labels camp, championing organic meats, milk from animals fed on grass and cage-free poultry while opposing antibiotics and synthetic growth hormones. Will laboratory-grown meat have the same stigma as other engineered food?

On the other hand, the average American uses about 1,500 gallons of water a day, half of which is associated with the meat and dairy we consume. A pound of beef takes about 1,800 gallons of water to produce (by supplying the steer with grass, forage, feed, and drinking water, plus cleaning and processing it). Clean meat uses 96 percent less water. In addition, animal agriculture is responsible for much of the waste that pollutes groundwater and rivers and for 14 to 18 percent of greenhouse gasses.

Historically, raising animals has led to pandemics, with outbreaks associated with slaughterhouses such as the H1N1 flu virus from pigs. According to the Centers for Disease Control, two out of five cases of people getting sick from food (bacteria, chemicals and viruses) come from farm-raised meat and poultry.

As with any new food technology, of course, there will need to be significant testing requirements to ensure safety, and there will need to be serious consequences for companies that create harmful products.

It's perfectly natural to be uncomfortable with such a seemingly unnatural idea. But even Winston Churchill predicted it in his time: "Fifty years hence, we shall escape the absurdity of growing a whole chicken in order to eat the breast or wing, by growing these parts separately under a suitable medium."

As clean meat becomes more commercially viable, we can expect to see a lot more of these arguments. In the end, the question we'll grapple with is whether "eating technology" is really any worse than eating animals.

PROTECT

From Page 10

University coastal geologist. "We are better off trying to keep the patient healthy."

Plans call for storing and cleaning more of the water we now drain out to sea for flood control. Once free of pollutants, that freshwater could instead be used to replenish the Everglades and, in turn, boost our drinking water supply.

"That's the only way," says Jerry Lorenz, an Audubon Society scientist based in the Keys.

But unless we pick up the pace on projects that get more freshwater flowing south, we could lose the fight against the steady creep of saltwater.

Already in the Everglades National Park's Cape Sable area, at the southwestern tip of the Florida peninsula, the freshwater marshes "have disappeared almost entirely," the park's website says.

"We are losing ground, literally, to the effects of sea-level rise," says Robert Johnson, director of the South Florida Natural Resources Center.

As saltwater pushes coast-hugging mangroves farther inland, the "peat" soil that makes up the Everglades' marshy ground is washing away and not getting replenished.

"As that (peat) falls off, the Everglades are shrinking and are more susceptible to sea-level rise," said Ashley Smyth, a University of Florida scientist.

You don't have to be a tree hugger, bird watcher or airboat enthusiast to have a stake in the Everglades.

Whether you are someone who canoes through Shark River Slough or someone who doesn't even notice the Everglades when you drive along the Sawgrass Expressway, if you live in South Florida your fate is tied to what becomes of the fading River of Grass.

We must save the Everglades, not just because it's the right thing to do, but because our survival depends on it.

"The Invading Sea" is a collaboration of four South Florida media organizations — the South Florida Sun Sentinel, Miami Herald, Palm Beach Post and WLRN Public Media.

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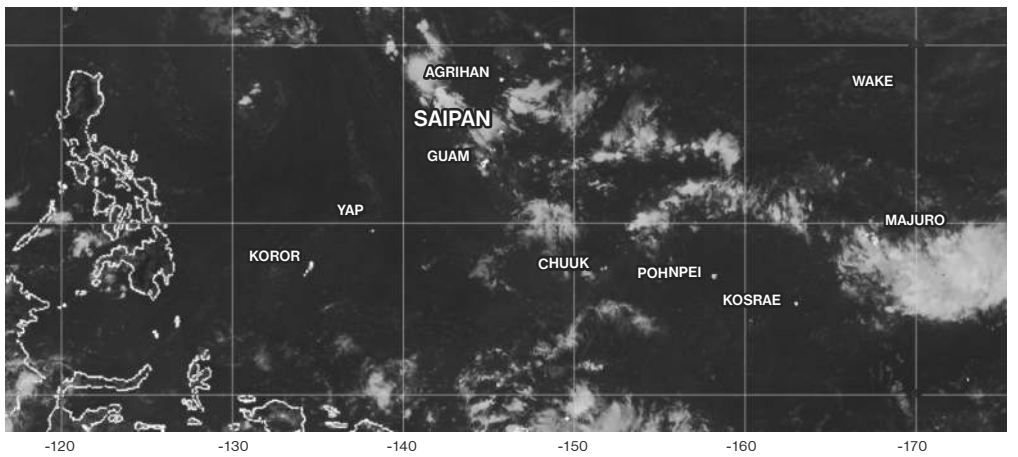
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼77°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:53 AM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A tweak or two made to the forecast. An upper-level low could be found northeast of Pagan this morning. Sunday night`s surface analysis hints at a weak trough near the local area. A few showers and thunderstorms developed southwest of the upper-low Sunday afternoon and even near Saipan early this morning. Activity appears to have decreased for now, but may re-develop this afternoon. Trimmed the mention of thunderstorms for this morning but kept them in for this afternoon. Light winds this afternoon, daytime heating, the weak surface trough, and the upper low may equal isolated thunderstorms this afternoon. The only complication is the lack of deep-layer moisture as last nights sounding only had a Precipitable Water Index (PWI) of 1.85 inches. Satellite PWI also was around 1.80 inches. To have thunderstorms a higher PWI would be more favorable. Since there have been thunderstorms already, kept them in the forecast, although they should be rather hit or miss as opposed to widespread. With the upper low in the region until Tuesday, expect isolated thunderstorms a possibility through that time. Winds will be light the next few days, high pressure building out over the Northwest Pacific will elevate the winds the second half of the coming week.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°
Yap	Mostly Sunny	87° / 81°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 82°

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	63° / 52°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	64° / 37°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	86° / 72°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 75°
London	Partly Cloudy	68° / 54°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	73° / 60°
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	64° / 43°
Miami	Thunderstorms	88° / 81°
New York	Partly Cloudy	79° / 70°
Osaka	Rain	79° / 64°
Paris	Sunny	73° / 52°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	72° / 52°
Rome	Showers	77° / 57°
Salem	Cloudy	85° / 73°
San Francisco	Sunny	64° / 55°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	59° / 43°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	79° / 68°
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	80° / 71°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
1:34 AM	LOW TIDE	0.32
7:25 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.99
1:49 PM	LOW TIDE	0.27
7:44 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.03

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:07 AM	6:00 PM
Wednesday	6:07 AM	6:00 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	5:59 PM
Friday	6:08 AM	5:58 PM
Saturday	6:08 AM	5:58 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	5:56 AM	6:17 PM	-
Wednesday	6:52 AM	7:01 PM	-
Thursday	7:47 AM	7:46 PM	-
Friday	8:42 AM	8:31 PM	-
Saturday	9:36 AM	9:18 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA105	4:55am	5:41am	3, 5
UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW9308	1:10am	4:10am	3, 4
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW9308	3:20am	6:30am	2
TW9308	3:25am	6:30am	5
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:35am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	8:45am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	8:45am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	8:45am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:30am	8:25am	1
UO43	6:00am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	8:45am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:00am	7:45am	Daily
UA104	11:30pm	12:16am+1	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW9307	6:30pm	12:10am+1	2, 3
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ625	8:40pm	2:10am+1	7
TW9307	9:00pm	2:20am+1	1
TW9307	9:05pm	2:25am+1	4
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	8:20pm	2:50am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:55pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174 via GUM	10:25pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
PR110/UA174	10:55pm	7:45am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:25am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:30am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

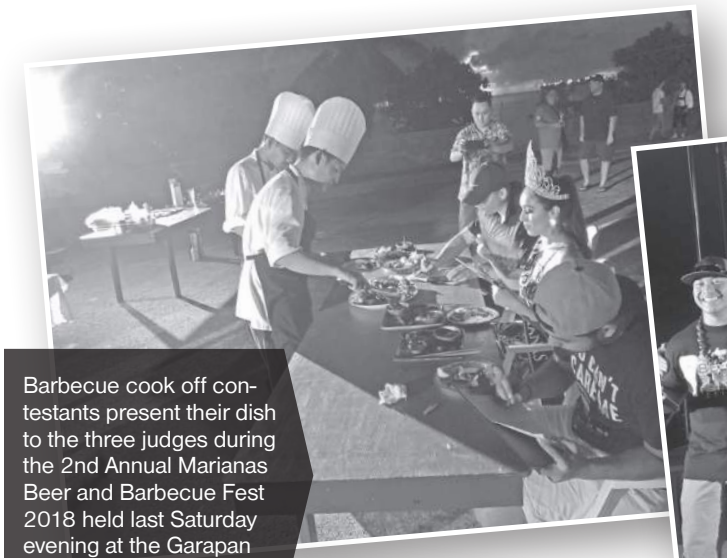
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

2nd Annual Marianas Beer and Barbecue Fest 2018

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Barbecue cook off contestants present their dish to the three judges during the 2nd Annual Marianas Beer and Barbecue Fest 2018 held last Saturday evening at the Garapan Fishing Base.

Third place team in the barbecue cook-off.

Second place team in the barbecue cook-off.

First place winners posing with the judges.

Fourplay, a bar chain in Taiwan, demonstrates a new original cocktail made with local ingredients.

Fourplay representative bartender prepares the cocktail for tasting.

Festival-goers group to the stage to try the original cocktail.

Both locals and tourists supported the annual festival.

Business

Californians weigh making egg-laying hens cage-free by 2022

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—California voters are right to think they already weighed in on how big cages should be for egg-laying hens.

In 2008, voters ushered in Proposition 2, which sought to free egg-laying hens from tiny cages. It didn't outlaw cages but barred California farmers from keeping hens—as well as calves raised for veal and breeding pigs—in pens so small they virtually couldn't move.

Since then, supermarket shelves have filled with cage-free egg varieties. Corporations like McDonald's, Costco and Taco Bell have committed to using cage-free products.

But a decade later, voters are being asked to revisit the issue with Proposition 12, the Farm Animal Confinement Initiative.

The Humane Society of the United States, the issue's primary proponent, says the measure is needed to update California standards and to apply those standards to out-of-state farmers selling their products in California. The earlier initiative simply stated the three types of animals must be able to turn around freely, stand up and fully extend their limbs—but set no specifics.

A "yes" vote for Proposition 12 would create new minimum size requirements for confinement pens for all three animals and require that all egg-laying hens be cage-free by 2022.

AP

In this Sept. 10, 2008 file photo, chickens huddle in their cages at an egg processing plant at the Dwight Bell Farm in Atwater, Calif.

It would also ban the sales from other states not meeting California's standards.

The Humane Society calls the measure a "common-sense reform" that strengthens a decade-old animal cruelty law and gives farmers a phase-in time to shift to more humane practices.

"Most of the eggs sold in California come from birds confined in cages where it's hard for them to even move. They have to eat, sleep, defecate and lay eggs in the same small space every day for their entire life," said Josh Balk, vice president at the Humane Society of the United States. "Proposition 12 ensures that the pork sold in California, the veal sold in California and the eggs sold in the state come from (animals) not confined in cages."

Specifically, the measure would require, starting in 2020, a calf confined for production to have at least 43 square feet (4 square meters) of floor space to roam in, while each pig would have to be given 24 square feet (2.2 square meters) of floor space starting in 2022.

Egg-laying hens, starting in 2020, must be given 1 square foot (0.1 square meter) of floor space each, and have to be cage-free by 2022, according to Proposition 12.

According to findings of the state's nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office, the measure would likely result in an increase in prices for eggs, pork and veal partly because farmers would have to remodel or build new housing for animals.

"Changes in housing systems, which come with significant costs that increase food prices, should be driven by consumer purchasing decisions, not the agenda of any activist group," Jim Monroe, National Pork Producers Council spokesman, told the Los Angeles Times.

The Association of California Egg Farmers also opposes the measure, saying the expedited timeline could lead to supply disruptions, price spikes and a shortage of eggs for sale.

The Legislative Analyst's Office concluded that if approved, the measure could cost the state as much as $10 million a year to enforce, and millions of dollars more per year in lost tax revenues from farm businesses that choose to stop or reduce production because of higher costs.

Other opponents of Proposition 12 say it doesn't go far enough to stop animal cruelty.

Bradley Miller, a spokesman for Californians against Cruelty, Cages and Fraud, which is leading a "No on Proposition 12" campaign, says the measure is misleading because the phase-in period implicitly makes cages legal until at least 2022.

"We're opposed to legalizing cages in our state," said Miller, who is also president of the Humane Farming Association. "These are ever-changing, never-arriving deadlines."

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Average US price of gas spikes 7 cents per gallon to $2.97

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)—The average U.S. price of regular-grade gasoline has spiked 7 cents a gallon over the past two weeks, costing $2.97. Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg of the Lundberg Survey says that's 41 cents a gallon higher than at this time last year. Lundberg said Sunday that rising crude oil prices are the main reason for the increase at the pump. The highest average price in the contiguous 48 states is $3.82 a gallon in Los Angeles. The lowest average is $2.58 in Houston. The average price of diesel also rose 7 cents over the past two weeks, to $3.28.

Scottish leader supports calls for new Brexit referendum

LONDON (AP)—Scotland's leader said Sunday that her nationalist party will support a new referendum on Britain's divorce from the European Union if Parliament gets a vote on it First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said the Scottish National Party "wouldn't stand in the way of a second referendum. Sturgeon told the BBC the party's lawmakers in London "would undoubtedly vote for that proposition." Britain as a whole voted in 2016 to leave the EU but Scottish voters backed staying in the bloc. With the U.K's Conservative government divided over future economic ties with the EU and Britain's departure looming on March 29, calls are growing for a new referendum on whether to accept a divorce deal or remain in the bloc. Hundreds of pro-EU demonstrators and their dogs marched through London to Parliament on Sunday in a "wooferendum" protest demanding a new Brexit vote. Former Labour government adviser Alastair Campbell—accompanied by Skye, a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel puppy—said the march was "a very British sort of thing." "People love their animals, and there are serious animal welfare concerns with Brexit," Campbell said. "But the reason I wanted to come is that I do think the people's vote has got to happen." "The Brexit that is now on offer is so far removed from anything that was promised," he said. "And far from it being undemocratic to have a second vote, I think it's undemocratic not to."

Plastic bags to be banned soon in coastal county

BEAUFORT, S.C. (AP)—Plastic bags will soon become scarce in another part of South Carolina. The Island Packet of Hilton Head Island reports that a plastic bag ban goes into effect Nov. 1 in Beaufort County. The newspaper reports that it bans "single-use" plastic bags commonly used to carry groceries, takeout food and clothing. The ordinance banning the bags first passed in the city of Beaufort and the town of Hilton Head Island in January. It was followed by similar action in Bluffton and Port Royal in February.

'Employee incident' has shaken managerial candidate's confidence

Q: A few months ago, I promoted a young woman who appeared to have a lot of management potential. "Megan" seemed excited about her new role, and I looked forward to mentoring her. Lately, however, Megan's enthusiasm for the job seems to have waned.

Megan recently told me that she may not want to continue as a manager. I suspect this reversal was triggered by an employee incident which occurred while I was on vacation. We have scheduled a meeting next week to talk about her concerns.

Megan has also started questioning my leadership style. Because her husband is in management at another company, she tends to compare my approach with his. She feels I'm too easy on employees because I often side with them when issues arise. Perhaps this is so, but I don't want to seem unsympathetic.

Despite my high hopes for Megan, I am now rethinking her promotion. If she gives up this easily, maybe she isn't management material. How should I handle this?

A: Because managing people is a unique experience, most new supervisors need time to adjust. Before writing Megan off, you should explore the reasons for her sudden change of heart. If the "employee incident" has shaken her confidence, explain that this is simply part of the learning curve, and then ask what she would do differently next time.

I do have to wonder whether your view may be colored by Megan's critique of your behavior. As she begins to develop her own leadership style, Megan will naturally look for available role models. Since you and her husband are the most convenient examples, her comparison of your styles is neither surprising nor insulting.

As a mentor, you should encourage Megan to consider the pros and cons of different approaches. This will help her choose the best response for each situation instead of being driven by emotional reactions. For example, you might explain how your natural empathy for employees can be both a strength and a weakness.

In addition to discussing her doubts, ask what Megan likes about management and highlight the things she does well. Encourage her to temporarily suspend judgment and suggest meeting weekly to continue exploring her feelings. If you praise Megan's progress and provide constructive coaching, she may eventually live up to your expectations.

Q: While I was on vacation, the woman who shares my office rearranged my entire work area. "Shannon" left me a note saying, "Surprise! I hope you don't mind." I told my manager, but she wasn't any help. What should I do about this?

A: Regardless of Shannon's intent, reorganizing your belongings without permission was an inexcusable boundary violation which must be addressed. Since the two of you will continue sharing space, however, you should respond assertively without escalating the conflict.

For example: "Shannon, I don't know why you reorganized my workspace, but I prefer things as they were, so I plan to change it back. In the future, if you have ideas for improving our office, just let me know so we can discuss them."

Given your close quarters, you might also ask whether anything about the prior configuration made Shannon's work more difficult. If so, perhaps you can find a compromise. But if not, just return to the previous arrangement.

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @ officecoach.*

Nation

20 dead in crash of limo headed to birthday celebration

SCHOHARIE, N.Y. (AP)—A limousine carrying four sisters, other relatives and friends to a birthday celebration blew through a stop sign and slammed into a parked SUV outside a store in upstate New York, killing all 18 people in the limo and two pedestrians, officials and victims' relatives said Sunday.

The weekend crash was characterized by authorities as the deadliest U.S. transportation accident in nearly a decade. The crash turned a relaxed Saturday afternoon to horror at a rural spot popular with tourists viewing the region's fall foliage. Relatives said the limousine was carrying the sisters and their friends to a 30th birthday celebration for the youngest.

"They were wonderful girls," said their aunt, Barbara Douglas, speaking with reporters Sunday. "They'd do anything for you and they were very close to each other and they loved their family."

Douglas said three of the sisters were with their husbands, and she identified them as Amy and Axel Steenburg, Abigail and Adam Jackson, Mary and Rob Dyson and Allison King.

"They did the responsible thing getting a limo so they wouldn't have to drive anywhere," she said, adding the couples had several children between them who they left at home.

The 2001 Ford Excursion limousine was traveling southwest on Route 30 in Schoharie, about 170 miles (270 kilometers) north of New York City, when it failed to stop at 2 p.m. Saturday at a T-junction with state Route 30A, State Police First Deputy Superintendent Christopher Fiore said at a news conference in Latham, New York.

It went across the road and hit an unoccupied SUV parked at the Apple Barrel Country Store, killing the limousine driver, the 17 passengers, and two people outside the vehicle.

The crash "sounded like an explosion," said Linda Riley, of nearby Schenectady, who was on a shopping trip with her sisters. She had been in another car parked at the store, saw a body on the ground and heard people start screaming.

The store manager, Jessica Kirby, told The New York Times the limo was coming down a hill at "probably over 60 mph." In an email to The Associated Press, she complained that the junction where the crashed occurred is accident-prone.

"We have had 3 tractor trailer type trucks run through the stop through our driveway and into a field behind the business," Kirby wrote. "All of these occurred during business hours and could've killed someone then."

She added that the state Department of Transportation has banned heavy trucks from the intersection but there are constant smaller crashes. "More accidents than I can count."

The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating.

"This is one of the biggest losses of life that we've seen in a long, long time," NTSB Chairman Robert Sumwalt said.

It's the deadliest transportation accident since February 2009, when Colgan Air Flight 3407 crashed near Buffalo, New York, killing 50 people, Sumwalt said.

And it appears to be the deadliest land-vehicle accident since a bus ferrying nursing home patients away from Hurricane Rita caught fire in Texas 2005, killing 23.

Debris scatters an area Sunday, Oct. 7, 2018, at the site of yesterday's fatal crash Schoharie, N.Y. AP

No Columbus Day in Columbus: City to honor veterans instead

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—The largest city named for Christopher Columbus has called off its observance of the divisive holiday that honors the explorer, making a savvy move to tie the switch to a politically safe demographic: veterans.

Ohio's capital city, population 860,000, will be open for business Monday after observing Columbus Day probably "for as long as it had been in existence," said Robin Davis, a spokeswoman for Democratic Mayor Andrew Ginther. City offices will close instead on Veterans Day, which falls on Nov. 12 this year.

Native Americans and allied groups have long used Columbus Day to elevate issues of concern to them. That includes a peaceful protest of prayers, speeches and traditional singing in 2016 at Columbus City Hall — underneath the statue of the explorer that sits out front — to protest the Dakota Access Pipeline and to urge Ohio to support more renewable energy.

The decision to stop observing the holiday was not triggered by the national movement to abolish Columbus Day in favor of Indigenous Peoples Day as a way of recognizing victims of colonialism, Davis said. Columbus Day marks the Italian explorer's arrival in the Americas on Oct. 12, 1492.

"We have a number of veterans who work for the city, and there are so many here in Columbus," Davis said. "We thought it was important to honor them with that day off." And, she said, the city doesn't have the budget to give its 8,500 employees both days off, she said.

Columbus made its announcement Thursday in a two-paragraph news release focused on the impact on trash pickup and parking enforcement schedules. In that way, it avoided much of the consternation that has taken place elsewhere around the holiday.

An attempt in Akron to rename the holiday grew ugly last year, dividing the all-Democratic city council along racial lines. Five black members voted to rename the holiday and eight white members voted not to, keeping the holiday in place.

A similar effort twice failed in Cincinnati before a vote Wednesday finally recognized Columbus Day as the renamed Indigenous Peoples Day. It became the second Ohio city to do so, after the liberal college town of Oberlin in 2017. Cleveland, which has a large Italian-American population, continues to host a major Columbus Day parade.

Organizers of the 39-year-old Columbus Italian Festival, traditionally held on Columbus Day weekend, were not given advance notice of the city's decision, said board member Joseph Contino.

Kavanaugh impartiality to be tested in blue state lawsuits

Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the U.S. Supreme Court has put a spotlight on the dozens of federal cases pitting the Trump administration against Democratic-leaning states, on issues including auto emission standards, immigration and a free-flowing internet.

He lashed out against "left-wing opposition groups" and others during the recent Senate hearing over a high school-era sexual assault allegation, raising questions about whether he can be impartial deciding cases that revolve around Democratic policies or that directly involve Democratic officials.

Kavanaugh already was known as a conservative judge. But his partisan rhetoric created new worries for some who will bring or support cases that eventually could come before the nation's highest court.

"I have even greater concerns about his judicial temperament and his ability to independently weigh cases that may involve the Trump administration," said Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, a Democrat who has joined more than a dozen lawsuits against the administration.

Democratic states are in scores of legal battles with the Trump administration over health care, the environment, consumer protections, immigration and other issues. Marquette University political scientist Paul Nolette has tallied 61 times that states have banded together in lawsuits against the Trump administration.

Trump's Department of Justice also has initiated legal action against blue states. Most recently, the department sued California just hours after Gov. Jerry Brown signed a law requiring internet neutrality that runs counter to actions taken by the administration.

Questions about Kavanaugh's ability to remain impartial and give a fair hearing to such cases escalated after his defiant statement Sept. 27 to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

He railed against the sexual assault accusations as being orchestrated by Democrats, saying: "This whole two-week effort has been a calculated and orchestrated political hit, fueled with apparent pent-up anger about President Trump and the 2016 election, fear that has been unfairly stoked about my judicial record, revenge on behalf of the Clintons and millions of dollars in money from outside left-wing opposition groups."

Kavanaugh, who denied the assault allegation, also said that "in the United States political system of the early 2000s, what goes around comes around"—a statement some observers took to be a threat. But Kavanaugh also said he would not be "swayed by public or political pressure."

Since then, he wrote in a Wall Street Journal op-ed that "an independent and impartial judiciary is essential" and that he will "keep an open mind in every case."

Lawsuits between the states and the Trump administration could test that.

Pat Gallagher, director of the legal program at the Sierra Club, said he expects Kavanaugh would oppose environmental regulation regardless of who calls for it—as he has often done as an appeals court judge.

With his confirmation, Gallagher said, "we're going to have to find ways to keep cases away from the Supreme Court."

Despite questions about Kavanaugh's objectivity, many of the lawsuits involving blue states do not align neatly with partisan ideology. The core question is who has the power to regulate in that area—the federal government or the states?

California's newly signed internet neutrality law is a prime example. It prohibits internet service providers from favoring specific websites or online content by cutting access or charging more for some than others. The state adopted the law last month in response to a Federal Communications Commission policy change earlier this year that ended a similar federal requirement.

Asia

PH's Duterte says he may have cancer, awaiting tests

AP
In this Tuesday, April 4, 2017 file photo, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte gestures while addressing army troopers during the 120th anniversary celebration of the Philippine Army at Fort Bonifacio in suburban Taguig city, east of Manila, Philippines.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said Thursday he might have cancer and added that "I don't know where I'm now physically" as he awaited the result of recent medical tests.

Duterte said in a speech in Manila that he underwent an endoscopy and colonoscopy about three weeks ago but his doctor was advised this week to repeat the tests. Both tests aim to diagnose any abnormality in the digestive tract and colon.

"I don't know where I'm now physically but I have to wait for that. But I would tell you if it's cancer, it's cancer," the 73-year-old Duterte said to a Philippine Military Academy alumni group and top security officials.

Duterte added that "if it's third stage, no more treatment. I will not prolong the agony in this office or anywhere."

Rumors have swirled for some time that Duterte, known for his deadly crackdown on illegal drugs, might have a serious illness. Duterte and his aides, however, repeatedly said he was generally fit although he had grown tired of politics after serving for about 40 years in different government posts.

"I really don't want it because I'm tired and I know that time's up for me," Duterte said, adding that physical limitations usually come at around age 70.

"I can't say now if I really got hit or not," he said, noting that he has other illnesses such as Barrett's esophagus, a condition thought to be caused by stomach acid washing up into the esophagus.

He has said in the past that he has sustained other ailments as a result of a motorcycle accident and drinking. "I did not stop drinking but no more, regret is like that. It always comes late. So it got worse," he said.

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque told reporters earlier Thursday that Duterte is fine but will inform the public if he has a serious ailment as required by the constitution. "The president is a lawyer. He will inform and conform with the constitution if there's a serious health ailment, but there is none," Roque said.

Roque posted on his Facebook account a video of Duterte arriving Thursday for a conference at the presidential palace with top military and police officials to show that the president was at work.

Roque and another key presidential aide, Christopher Go, made the assurance after rumors circulated that Duterte missed a ceremony Wednesday because he was hospitalized.

Go denied the rumors and said Duterte skipped the event because he was tired from a provincial trip the day before and opted to go to a private meeting and have some personal time.

Last appeal of Christian on Pakistan death row for blasphemy

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's Supreme Court is set to hear the final appeal Monday of a Christian on death row since 2010 accused of insulting Islam's prophet, a crime that incites mobs to kill and carries an automatic death penalty.

Her lawyer Saiful Malook is optimistic Aasia Bibi will win her last legal appeal. But if not, he will seek a review, which could take years to complete.

"I am a 100 percent sure she will be acquitted," Malook told The Associated Press in a telephone interview on the eve of the hearing. "She has a very good case."

On a hot day in 2009, Bibi went to get water for her and her fellow farmworkers. After she took a sip, some of the Muslim women became angry that a Christian had drunk from the same container. They demanded she convert, she refused. Five days later, a mob accused her of blasphemy. She was convicted and sentenced to death.

Malook said he will argue that the many contradictions of the eyewitnesses taint their evidence. Malook said he will also argue that the witnesses were not judged in keeping with Islamic injunctions, which requires they be proven to be "pious, to never have lied, to be of good character."

Internationally Bibi's case has generated outrage, but in Pakistan it has rallied radical Islamists and militant groups, who have embraced Pakistan's blasphemy law, using it to cultivate support and attack those who try to break their power.

Just defending her is dangerous.

"I have lost my health. I am a high blood pressure patent, my privacy is totally lost. You have to be in hiding," her lawyer said. Everyone on his tree-lined street knows his identity. "They look at this house and they know this is the home of a person who can be killed at any time by angry mullahs."

Outside Malook's home in the Punjab provincial capital of Lahore police provide around-the-clock security. In 2011, Salman Taseer, the governor of Punjab province was shot and killed by one of his elite guards for defending Bibi and criticizing misuse of the blasphemy law. Malook prosecuted his killer, Mumtaz Qadri, who was hanged for his crime. Qadri has since become a martyr to millions, who make a pilgrimage to a shrine erected in his name by his family outside the federal capital.

Last month a member of Pakistan's newly elected government, which is led by Imran Khan, a former cricket star who has embraced religious conservatism, offered prayers at Qadri's shrine, generating an outcry from rights activists. Qadri's supporters have openly called for the immediate death of anyone even accused of blasphemy.

An unprecedented number of religious parties participated in the July elections that put Khan in power. But as in previous elections they garnered less than 10 percent of the popular vote. Still they have allies among all the major parties. Yet one party, Tehreek-e-Labbaik, won three provincial seats in Pakistan's southern Sindh province, by campaigning on a single issue—the finality of the Prophet Muhammad. They are ardent supporters of the harsh blasphemy law that prescribes death for anyone found guilty of insulting Islam.

According to the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, 71 countries have blasphemy laws—around a quarter of them are in the Middle East and North Africa and around a fifth are European countries, though enforcement and punishment varies.

Pakistan is one of the most ferocious enforcers.

At least 1,472 people were charged under Pakistan's blasphemy laws between 1987 and 2016, according to statistics collected by the Center for Social Justice, a Lahore-based group. Of those, 730 were Muslims, 501 were Ahmedis—a sect reviled by mainstream Muslims as heretical—while 205 were Christians and 26 were Hindus. The center said it didn't know the religion of the final 10 because they were killed by vigilantes before they could get their day in court.

Indonesian officials fear 5,000 missing as Christians pray

PALU, Indonesia (AP)—Christians dressed in their tidiest clothes flocked to Sunday sermons in the earthquake and tsunami damaged Indonesian city of Palu, seeking answers as the death toll from the twin disasters breached 1,700 and officials said they feared more than 5,000 others could be missing.

Indonesia's disaster agency said the number of dead had climbed to 1,763, mostly in Palu. Agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho said many more people could be buried, especially in the Palu neighborhoods of Petobo and Balaroa, where more than 3,000 homes were damaged or sucked into deep mud when the Sept. 28 quake caused loose soil to liquefy.

"Based on reports from village chiefs in Balaroa and Petobo, some 5,000 people have not been found. Our workers on the ground are trying to confirm this," he said at a news briefing in Jakarta, Indonesia's capital.

Nugroho said that efforts to retrieve decomposed bodies in deep, soft mud were getting tougher and that some people may have fled or been rescued and evacuated. More than 8,000 either injured or vulnerable residents have been flown or shipped out of Palu, while others could have left by land, he said.

Officially, Nugroho said only 265 people are confirmed missing and 152 others still buried under mud and rubble, nine days after the magnitude 7.5 earthquake and powerful tsunami hit Palu and surrounding areas.

The government targets to end search operations by Thursday, nearly two weeks after the disaster, at which time those unaccounted for will be declared missing and considered dead, Nugroho said.

In Palu on Sunday, at least 200 people, including soldiers, filled the gray pews of the Protestant Manunggal church for a service.

They sang as a young girl in a black and white dress with a red bow danced in the aisle, prayed and listened to a 30-minute sermon from the pastor, Lucky Malonda. A woman in the front pew wept.

Min Kapala, a 49-year-old teacher, said she came to the city of more than 25 churches from an outlying area because her usual house of worship was destroyed and liquefaction moved a different piece of ground to its location.

"I'm here at this particular church because my own church is no more; it's leveled, and on its location there's a corn plant," she said. "That was very strange to me."

Outside the church, Malonda said the intensity of the disaster had taken even scientists by surprise and called it the will of God. Two people from his congregation were missing, he said.

"This is for sure part of godly intervention, not outside the power of almighty God, that can't be predicted or planned for by anything," Malonda said.

He said religious leaders are discussing holding interfaith prayers but nothing has been agreed yet.

Protestants, Catholics and Charismatics make up about 10 percent of the population of Palu, the provincial capital of Central Sulawesi. The province has a history of violent conflict between Muslims and Christians, though tensions have calmed in the past decade. Indonesia is the world's most populous Muslim country.

As searchers continued to dig through rubble Sunday, Central Sulawesi Gov. Loki Djanggola said local officials were meeting with religious groups and families of victims to seek their consent to turn neighborhoods wiped out by liquefaction into mass graves.

He said on local television that survivors in the Petobo, Balaroa and Jono Oge neighborhoods could be relocated and monuments be built in the areas, which now look like wastelands, to remember the victims interred there. Officials have said that it is not safe for heavy equipment to operate in those areas and that they fear the risk of the spread of disease from decomposed bodies.

World

Brazil's far-right candidate falls short of election stunner

SAO PAULO (AP)—A far-right former army captain who expresses nostalgia for Brazil's military dictatorship won the first round of its presidential election by a surprisingly large margin Sunday but fell just short of getting enough votes to avoid a runoff against a leftist rival.

Jair Bolsonaro, whose last-minute surge almost gave him an electoral stunner, had 46 percent compared to 29 percent for former Sao Paulo Mayor Fernando Haddad, according to figures from Brazil's Superior Electoral Tribunal with 99.9 percent of the vote counted. He needed over 50 percent support to win outright.

Polls predicted Bolsonaro would come out in front on Sunday, but he far outperformed expectations, blazing past competitors with more financing, institutional backing of parties and free air time on television.

Despite the sizable victory, polls have shown the two candidates are neck-and-neck for the Oct. 28 runoff, and much could shift in the coming weeks. Two other candidates, one center-left and one center-right, said they would decide in the coming days if they would endorse anyone.

Ultimately, Bolsonaro's strong showing reflects a yearning for the past as much as a sign of the future. The candidate from the tiny Social and Liberal Party made savvy use of Twitter and Facebook to spread his message that only he could end the corruption, crime and economic malaise that has seized Brazil in recent years—and bring back the good old days and traditional values.

"This is a victory for honest people, who want the best for Brazil," said Bianca Santos, 40-year-old psychologist, who added Bolsonaro would end high crime rates.

Brazil is the largest economy in Latin America and it is a diplomatic heavyweight in the region. Bolsonaro has promised to shake up its foreign policy, including taking a harder line on Venezuela and other leftist regimes and forging closer ties with the United States. He won over many foreign investors by promising smaller government and a more open economy.

But the election largely turned on domestic matters, on which Bolsonaro has alienated nearly as many people as he has attracted. Many fear what Brazil will look like if he wins.

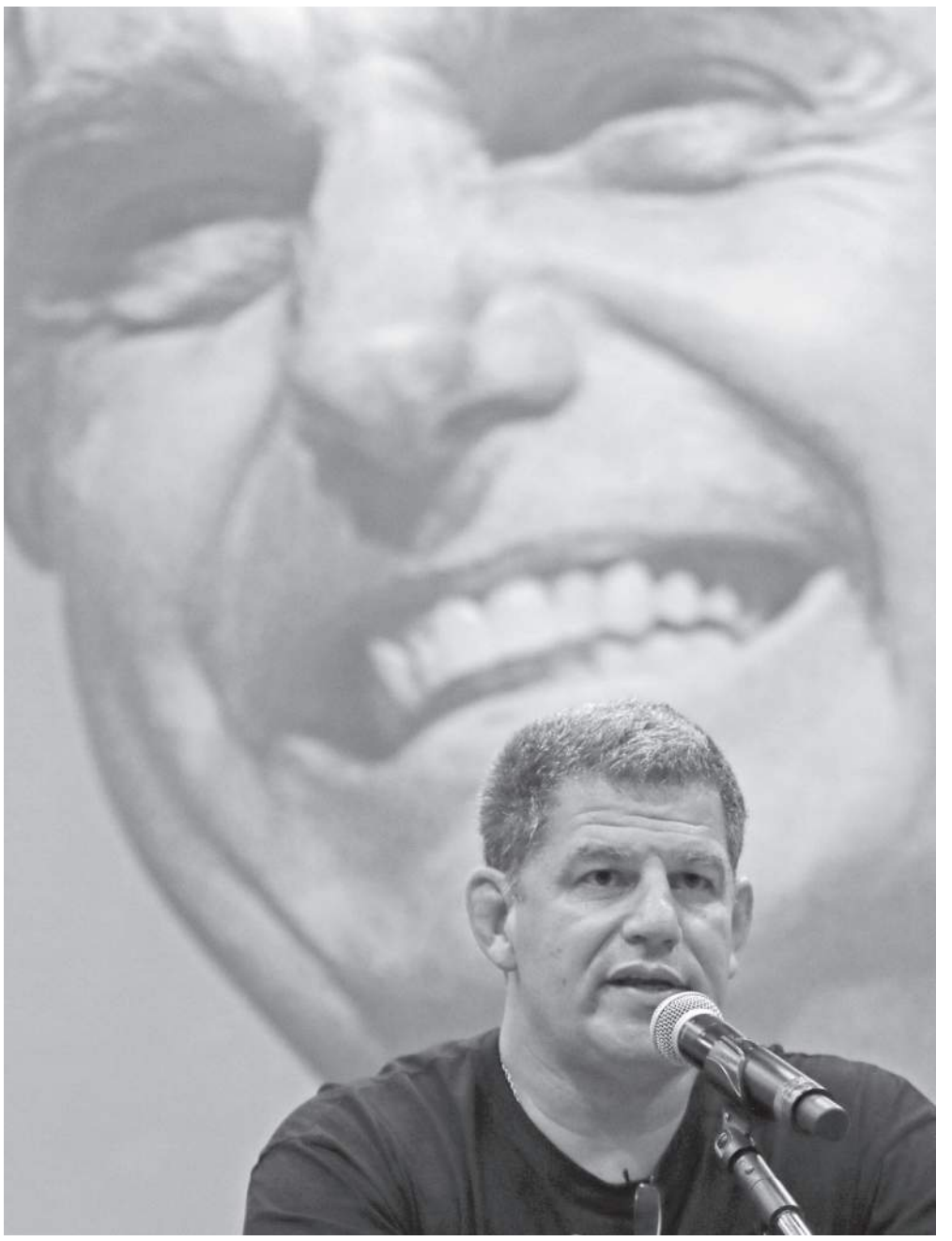
Barbara Aires, a transgender woman who unsuccessfully ran for Rio de Janeiro state representative, said Bolsonaro's first-round victory represented a "step backward" that could lead to "taking back rights and more violence toward the LGBT community."

The two candidates have painted starkly different visions of the country's past and future.

Bolsonaro has portrayed a nation in collapse, where drug traffickers and politicians steal with equal impunity, and moral rot has set in. He has advocated loosening gun ownership laws so individuals can fight off criminals, giving police a freer hand to use force and restoring "traditional" Brazilian values—though some take issue with his definition of those values in light of his approving allusions to the 1964-1985 dictatorship and his derisive comments about women, blacks and gay people.

He once told a fellow congresswoman that she was too ugly for him to rape and said that he would not be able to love a gay son.

While those comments have disgusted many, Bolsonaro has capitalized on Brazilians' deep anger with their traditional political class and "throw the bums out" rage after a massive corruption investigation revealed staggering levels of graft.



AP

Backdropped by a picture of the presidential candidate Jair Bolsonaro of the Social Liberal Party, Gustavo Bebianno Rocha, president of the Social Liberal Party, speaks to journalists after his candidate spoke in a live broadcast on Facebook, at a hotel in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2018.

Back-to-back temblors have some Haitians sleeping outside

PORT-DE-PAIX, Haiti (AP)—For some Haitians fearing new aftershocks, the best place to spend the night is under a tree.

The one-two punch of a magnitude 5.9 earthquake in northern Haiti on Saturday that destroyed houses and killed at least 12 people followed by a strong 5.2 magnitude aftershock on Sunday has residents worried about returning to their cracked cinderblock homes for fear they will collapse.

"I don't feel safe even inside my house," said Gary Joseph as he put various mattresses for himself and his two sons to sleep on under a tree outside the house in Port-de-Paix.

He pointed to cracks left by the quake and aftershock in a wall and said: "I have to protect myself and my sons."

Sunday's aftershock caused panic on streets where emergency teams were providing relief to victims of Saturday's quake, which toppled cinderblock homes and rickety buildings in several cities.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the epicenter of the aftershock was located 9.8 miles (15.8 kilometers) north-northwest of Port-de-Paix, the city hard hit by Saturday's earthquake.

Haiti's civil protection agency said at least eight people died in the coastal city of Port-de-Paix and three people died in the nearby community of Gros-Morne in Artibonite province. Another person died in Saint-Louis du Nord, Communication Minister Eddy Jackson Alexis tweeted.

Among the dead from Saturday night's quake were a 5-year-old boy crushed by his collapsing house and a man killed in a falling auditorium. Authorities said 188 people were injured.

Impoverished Haiti, where many live in tenuous circumstances, is vulnerable to earthquakes and hurricanes. A vastly larger magnitude 7.1 quake damaged much of the capital in 2010 and killed an estimated 300,000 people.

"I feel like my life is not safe here," said nun Maryse Alsaint, director of the San Gabriel National School in Gros-Morne, where several classrooms were severely damaged.

She said that about 500 students would not be able to return to school on Monday.

President Jovenel Moise urged people to donate blood and asked international aid agencies to coordinate with local agencies to avoid duplicated efforts. By Sunday evening the government didn't provide an estimate of the damages.

The USGS said Saturday's quake was centered 12 miles (19 kilometers) northwest of Port-de-Paix, which is about 136 miles (219 kilometers) from the capital of Port-au-Prince.

UN report on global warming carries life-or-death warning

WASHINGTON (AP)—Preventing an extra single degree of heat could make a life-or-death difference in the next few decades for multitudes of people and ecosystems on this fast-warming planet, an international panel of scientists reported Sunday. But they provide little hope the world will rise to the challenge.

The Nobel Prize-winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued its gloomy report at a meeting in Incheon, South Korea.

In the 728-page document, the U.N. organization detailed how Earth's weather, health and ecosystems would be in better shape if the world's leaders could somehow limit future human-caused warming to just 0.9 degrees Fahrenheit (a half degree Celsius) from now, instead of the globally agreed-upon goal of 1.8 degrees F (1 degree C). Among other things:

- Half as many people would suffer from lack of water.
- There would be fewer deaths and illnesses from heat, smog and infectious diseases.
- Seas would rise nearly 4 inches (0.1 meters) less.
- Half as many animals with back bones and plants would lose the majority of their habitats.
- There would be substantially fewer heat waves, downpours and droughts.
- The West Antarctic ice sheet might not kick into irreversible melting.
- And it just may be enough to save most of the world's coral reefs from dying.

"For some people this is a life-or-death situation without a doubt," said Cornell University climate scientist Natalie Mahowald, a lead author on the report.

Limiting warming to 0.9 degrees from now means the world can keep "a semblance" of the ecosystems we have. Adding another 0.9 degrees on top of that—the looser global goal—essentially means a different and more challenging Earth for people and species, said another of the report's lead authors, Ove Hoegh-Guldberg, director of the Global Change Institute at the University of Queensland, Australia.

But meeting the more ambitious goal of slightly less warming would require immediate, draconian cuts in emissions of heat-trapping gases and dramatic changes in the energy field. While the U.N. panel says technically that's possible, it saw little chance of the needed adjustments happening.

In 2010, international negotiators adopted a goal of limiting warming to 2 degrees C (3.6 degrees F) since pre-industrial times. It's called the 2-degree goal. In 2015, when the nations of the world agreed to the historic Paris climate agreement, they set dual goals: 2 degrees C and a more demanding target of 1.5 degrees C from pre-industrial times. The 1.5 was at the urging of vulnerable countries that called 2 degrees a death sentence.

The world has already warmed 1 degree C since pre-industrial times, so the talk is really about the difference of another half-degree C or 0.9 degrees F from now.

"There is no definitive way to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 above pre-industrial levels," the U.N.-requested report said. More than 90 scientists wrote the report, which is based on more than 6,000 peer reviews.

"Global warming is likely to reach 1.5 degrees C between 2030 and 2052 if it continues to increase at the current rate," the report states.

Focus

Vatican defends pope against 'blasphemous' cover-up claims

By NICOLE WINFIELD
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP)—A top Vatican cardinal issued a scathing rebuke Sunday of the ambassador who accused Pope Francis of covering up the sexual misconduct of a prominent American cardinal, saying his claims were a "blasphemous" political hit job.

Six weeks after Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano threw the papacy into turmoil over his claims about ex-Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, the head of the Vatican's bishops office said there was no evidence in his files backing Vigano's claims that Francis annulled any canonical sanctions against McCarrick.

Ouellet did confirm for the first time that McCarrick, now 88, had been subject to some form of disciplinary measures given uncorroborated "rumors" of misconduct in his past. But Ouellet said the "exhortation" to live a discreet life of prayer stopped short of binding canonical sanctions, precisely because the rumors lacked proof.

Ouellet's letter was issued Sunday, a day after Francis authorized a "thorough study" of all Vatican archives into how McCarrick rose through the ranks of the Catholic Church despite allegations he sexually preyed on seminarians and young priests.

The letter, addressed to Vigano but identified as an open letter to the faithful, marked an extraordinary end to the official Vatican silence about Vigano's claims. In it, Ouellet both defended the pope and excoriated Vigano, asserting that the conservative cleric had used the scandal over sexual abuse in the U.S. to score ideological points with Francis' critics on the Catholic right.

"In response to your unjust and unjustified attack, dear Vigano, I conclude that your accusation is a political setup without any real foundation that could incriminate the pope, and I repeat that it has profoundly wounded the communion of the church," Ouellet wrote.

He demanded Vigano "come out of hiding and repent" for having falsely accused Francis and questioned how he could continue to celebrate Mass and pray the rosary given his "incomprehensible and gravely reprehensible" attack on Christ's vicar on Earth.

The McCarrick scandal has thrown the U.S. and Vatican hierarchy into turmoil, given that it was apparently an open secret in some U.S. church circles that he would invite seminarians into his bed. Two men received settlements starting in 2005 from two New Jersey dioceses after they alleged McCarrick sexually molested or harassed them.

The Vatican was informed starting in at least 2000 about the seminarian complaints. But it wasn't until last year that it was informed of an accusation that he had molested a minor—a far more grave canonical crime than merely sleeping with adult seminarians.

Francis accepted McCarrick's resignation as a cardinal in July after a U.S. church investigation determined that an allegation that he groped a teenage altar boy in the 1970s was credible. Since then, another man has come forward saying McCarrick molested him when he was a young teen.

Ouellet's letter marked the Vatican's first direct response to Vigano's 11-page denunciation published Aug. 26 in which he accused two dozen Vatican and U.S. church officials of covering up for McCarrick since 2000, and demanded Francis resign for his role in the scandal.

Vigano claimed he told Francis during a June 23, 2013, meeting that Pope Benedict XVI had sanctioned McCarrick to a lifetime of penance and prayer for having "corrupted a generation of seminarians and priests."

He said the sanctions included a prohibition from traveling or lecturing for the church or celebrating Mass publicly. The historic record, however, is rife with evidence that McCarrick travelled widely in the years in which he was allegedly under sanction, with even Vigano toasting him warmly at an awards ceremony in New York in 2012.

Ouellet did acknowledge that McCarrick had been "strongly exhorted" not to travel or appear in public, and to live a discreet life of prayer given the rumors against him. But he said a review of his files showed there were no documents about any canonical sanctions ever imposed by Benedict, and that it was "false" to suggest Francis had annulled any such measures.

"After a review of the archives, I find that there are no documents signed by either pope in this regard, and there are no audience notes from my predecessor, Cardinal Giovanni-Battista Re, imposing on the retired archbishop the obligation to lead a quiet and private life with the weight normally reserved to canonical penalties," Ouellet wrote. "The reason is that back then, unlike today, there was not sufficient proof of his alleged culpability."

Vigano had implied that Francis, even after being informed about McCarrick's misdeeds, nevertheless rehabilitated him from "canonical sanctions" and made him a trusted counselor as he set out to remake the U.S. bishops' conference.

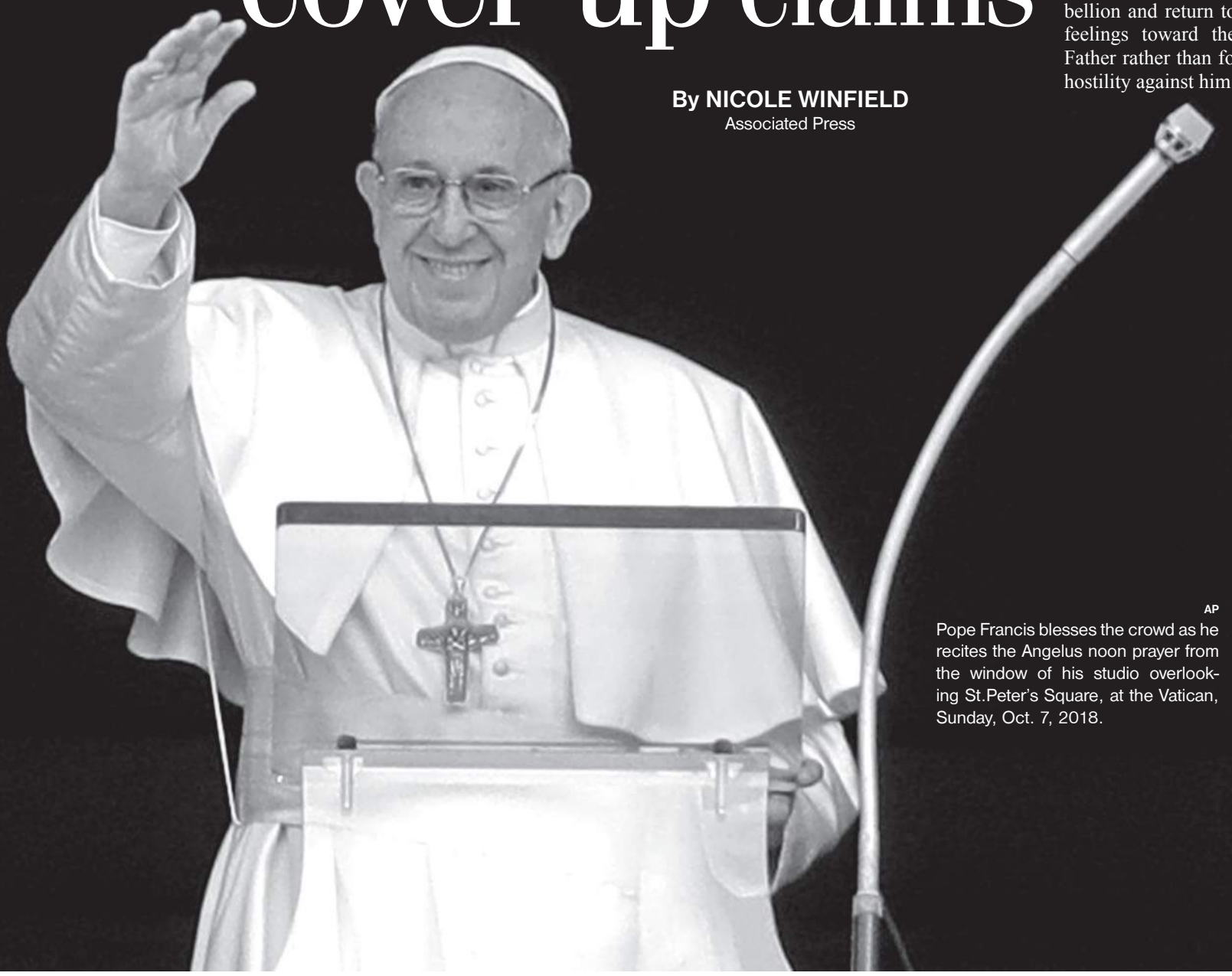
Ouellet pointed out that the June 2013 meeting occurred as Francis was meeting with all his ambassadors for the first time and was gathering an "enormous quantity of verbal and written information" about the church.

"I strongly doubt that McCarrick concerned him to the degree you'd like to think, given he was an 82-year-old emeritus archbishop who had been out of a job for seven years," Ouellet wrote.

Ouellet said in all his meetings with Francis about bishop nominations, he never heard him once refer to McCarrick as a trusted counselor. As prefect of the Congregation for Bishops, Ouellet meets weekly with Francis to discuss nominations, and presumably would have come to understand if McCarrick had Francis' ear.

Ouellet said he understood that Vigano might be bitter at the way his own career ended, a reference to Vigano's disappointment—expressed in leaked letters in 2012—that he was never made a cardinal as he claimed he had been promised. But Ouellet said he couldn't believe Vigano had arrived at such a "monstrous" and "blasphemous" conclusion, given that Francis had nothing to do with McCarrick's career rise.

"You cannot end your priestly life in an open and scandalous rebellion that inflicts a painful wound" on the church and divides its people, he ended his letter. "Come out of your hiding place, repent for your rebellion and return to better feelings toward the Holy Father rather than fostering hostility against him."



AP

Pope Francis blesses the crowd as he recites the Angelus noon prayer from the window of his studio overlooking St.Peter's Square, at the Vatican, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2018.

Overdrive

The 2019 Nissan Altima. TNS

New yet familiar, Nissan offers an all-new Altima for 2019

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SANTA BARBARA, Calif.—Much has been made of the fact that many Americans now drive some form of light truck. Sales of SUVs, crossovers and pickups are closing in on 70 percent of U.S. new vehicle sales. Yes, we have become a nation of truck drivers. But that doesn't mean that cars no longer matter. They do, accounting for 6 million units a year in sales in the United States, of which one-third are midsize cars. (That's 2 million units a year for the math adverse.)

This is why Nissan redesigned the Altima for 2019 with all-new platform and two new engines with all-wheel drive or front-wheel drive. Given that the Subaru Legacy is the only other all-wheel drive midsize sedan, Nissan has a huge selling advantage in Northern climes. The $1,350 AWD option is available on all models, which include S, SR, SV, SL and Platinum trims. However, it's only offered with the base engine, a direct injected 2.5-liter four-cylinder rated at 188 horsepower. Replacing the previous Altima's 270-horsepower 3.5-liter V-6 engine on upper-level SR and Platinum models is the VC-Turbo, the world's first production variable compression turbocharged engine. The 248-horsepower 2.0-liter turbocharged engine has been under development for two decades. It's trick? It continuously raises or lowers the pistons' reach, changing from 8:1 for high performance to 14:1 for high fuel efficiency. But it's only offered with front-wheel drive, not all-wheel drive. Both engines mate to a continuously variable automatic transmission.

And it's safe, thanks to standard Automatic Emergency Braking, Intelligent Forward Collision Warning and Intelligent Driver Alertness. A Safety Shield 360 package is optional and adds Automatic Emergency Braking with Pedestrian Detection, Rear Automatic Braking, Lane Departure Warning, Blind Spot Warning, Rear Cross Traffic Alert and High Beam Assist.

On my recent drive in Santa Barbara, Calif., Nissan provided SR and Platinum models for testing.

Certainly, the new VC-T engine provides more thrills than its larger non-turbo sibling. Power off the line is strong, and care is needed to avoid squealing tires. The engine and transmission seem well matched, with the transmission doing its best impersonation of a conventional transmission under hard acceleration,and delivering a fun experience. However, it requires premium fuel while returning the lowest fuel economy of any Altima. In contrast, the base engine uses regular unleaded gasoline and returns better fuel economy. But power is merely adequate; it's not nearly as entertaining. If you live in a hilly region, you'll find the 2.5-liter challenged by inclines, especially with the added weight of all-wheel drive. Nevertheless, the transmission feels more linear than before, lacking the rubber banding typically found in CVTs. Regardless of model, comfort and refinement are this car's hallmarks. It's agile and provides impressive grip, and a well-mannered chassis. But it's no sports sedan.

The polished demeanor can best be seen in the interior, where a large 8-inch infotainment touchscreen anchors the sleek, contemporary instrument panel. Apple CarPlay and Android Auto are standard, and the chip set used operates quickly. And techies take note: this might be the only car to offer two USB and two USB-C ports. Cabin trim quality varies from trim to trim, with some evidence that accountants have been at work, but overall quality is satisfying for the price. The cabin itself is roomy both front and rear thanks to a two-inch longer wheelbase, an extra inch in width and overall length, although it's one inch lower.

It's wrapped in the finest interpretation yet of Nissan's current design language. While still aggressive, there's a refinement to its appearance that makes it perfect for midsize sedan duty, dancing on the edge of mild and wild. It's quite a sharp-looking ride.

But is it enough to make a crossover shopper give up their ride for an Altima? Most likely not; it's merely an improved version of what has come before. Nevertheless, the 2019 Nissan Altima offers an impressively upscale appearance and feature list at a popular price. That was true of the first Altima in 1993, which looked much like a shrunken Infiniti J30. Six generations on, the 2019 Altima is better in every way. It's clearly Nissan's ultimate Altima.

Perhaps it should have been called the Altimate.

NUTS & BOLTS

- **Vehicle type**: Midsize four-door sedan
- **Base prices**: $23,750-$35,750
- **Engine**: Double-overhead-cam 2.5-liter four-cylinder
- **Horsepower**: 188
- **Torque**: 180 pound-feet
- **EPA fuel economy (city/highway)**: 25-28/35-39 mpg
- **Wheelbase**: 111.2 inches
- **Length**: 192.9 inches
- **Cargo capacity**: 15.4 cubic feet
- **Towing capacity**: xx pounds
- **Curb weight**: 3,344-3,462 pounds

Breaking in your brakes

Q: I recently had brakes done on my Acura and was told by the service advisor to drive gently for the first hundred miles or so. A friend told me this is all wrong and I should have done a half dozen or more hard stops to "heat cycle" them before normal driving. Who is right?

—Jill D.

A: This is a controversial subject, as the recommended brake bedding-in process can vary quite a bit between brake pad manufacturers and shops performing the work. Other names for the process are break-in, conditioning and burnishing. This procedure should be performed whenever new brake pads are installed, new brake rotors are installed or the rotors are refinished. Ideally, this is done by the brake installer prior to vehicle delivery, but it helps if the vehicle owner picks up the ball and follows up with gentle brake use for several weeks. Successful bedding-in promotes smoother judder/noise-free brake performance over the long haul.

According to Raybestos, a major brake parts manufacturer, a proper break-in procedure provides three important functions: "Physically and thermally converts the composition of the pad and/or rotor, smooths the asperities (roughness, unevenness) of the mating surfaces, and heat cycles the entire pad structure."

The bedding in process basically involves transferring a very thin layer or film of pad material to the rotor surface. A typical recommendation is to find an isolated section of road and perform about six to 10 moderate slow-downs from 40 mph down to 10 mph, allowing the brakes to cool a bit between each cycle. Stopping fully isn't recommended as the brake pads may imprint on the rotor, upsetting the even transfer of film. Some pad manufacturers go a step further with additional firmer stops to generate additional heat. Continuing to drive afterwards for a bit to allow a gentle cool-down is sometimes called for, as well as avoiding using the parking brake during this first phase (if appropriate/safe). Attempting gentle brake use for the next 300 to 400 miles is also recommended to fully achieve film transfer, although if a sudden/severe stop is needed, of course do so!

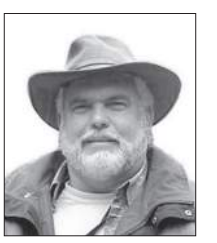
Q: While doing a little servicing under the hood I noticed my battery was sweaty and seemed warm, although I had driven on and off for about an hour before. I've never seen a battery do this. Is it normal?

—Collin W.

A: This doesn't sound good! It's possible your charging system is overdoing things and is somewhat cooking the battery. If so, it's odd you haven't seen either an illuminated battery or check engine light, but weirder things have happened! An over-charge condition can be easily confirmed by observing battery voltage, while running, either from an instrument panel gauge or a voltmeter placed across the battery terminals. Most charging systems top out at about 14.8 volts. A reading notably higher than this does indicate a problem with the voltage regulator. This part is typically contained within the alternator or the process is conducted by the PCM (powertrain control module). If an over-charge condition is occurring, it's best to get it fixed right away to prevent possible battery and component damage! Rinsing the battery, the tray beneath and surrounding metal of any acid residue with a stream of fresh water would be a good idea as well.

UNDER THE HOOD

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
Tribune News Service



Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

Life & Style

Cosby lawyers ask court to void conviction, prison sentence

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Bill Cosby's lawyers have asked a Pennsylvania court to overturn the actor's conviction and three- to 10-year prison sentence because of what they call a string of errors in his sex assault case.

The defense motion argued that trial Judge Steven O'Neill erred in declaring Cosby a sexually violent predator who must be imprisoned to protect the community. Lawyers called the sentence more punitive than necessary, given the standard two- to three-year guideline range for the crime and the fact Cosby is 81 and blind.

They also said the trial evidence never proved the encounter with accuser Andrea Constand took place in 2004, and not 2003, or that Cosby was arrested within the 12-year time limit.

Cosby was arrested on Dec. 30, 2015, and was convicted at a second trial this April. He has been in a state prison near Philadelphia since the Sept. 25 sentencing, when the judge refused to let him stay out on $1 million bail pending appeal. Given his fame, wealth and use of drugs to molest the accuser, the judge said, Cosby could remain a threat to other women.

The defense motion said O'Neill improperly considered the trial testimony of five other accusers in sentencing Cosby, instead of limiting that "prior bad act" testimony to the question of his guilt or innocence. O'Neill, in explaining the sentence in court, told Cosby he considered "voices from the past, your past," and that he "heard their voices loud and clear," the defense said.

The lawyers also challenged the state's sex offender laws, which have been revised several times amid challenges they are unconstitutionally vague. The law requires judges to find that a sexually violent predator has a "mental abnormality," a term they said has no legal or psychological meaning, yet subjects defendants to lifetime counseling and police registration.

AP

Bill Cosby is escorted out of the Montgomery County Correctional Facility, Tuesday Sept. 25, 2018, in Eagleville, Pa., following his sentencing to three-to-10-year prison sentence for sexual assault.

The defense motion, dated Friday, was posted to a public court docket in the case over the weekend. Kate Delano, a spokeswoman for the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office, said the office will file a response.

The motion was filed by lawyer Peter Goldberger, a top appellate lawyer in the region, and Joseph P. Green Jr., who handled Cosby's sentencing after more than a dozen other lawyers on the case had come and gone. A former appellate lawyer on the case is suing Cosby over what he called more than $50,000 in unpaid bills.

The defense also complained that an audio recording played to jurors of a 2005 conversation between Cosby and Gianna Constand, the mother of accuser Andrea Constand, was "not authentic." They said they did not make the discovery until an expert review after the trial.

District Attorney Kevin Steele has dismissed that as a legitimate appeal issue, saying it's been widely known that Gianna Constand started her recorder after the call began. She had called Cosby to get answers about what happened to her daughter after Andrea Constand disclosed the assault a year later. The family went to police, who suggested they try to record Cosby.

During the call, Cosby acknowledged engaging in "digital penetration" after giving her daughter pills he would not identify, and offered money for Andrea to attend graduate school, Gianna Constand testified.

'Venom' sets October record with $80M; 'Star Is Born' soars

NEW YORK (AP)—In a weekend of perfect counterprogramming for Hollywood, the comic-book movie "Venom" shrugged off bad reviews to shatter the October box-office record with an $80 million debut, while Bradley Cooper's "A Star Is Born" soared to $41.3 million.

With $174.5 million in tickets sold at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore, it was easily the best October weekend ever thanks to two very different films that both outperformed expectations.

"Venom" came in a critically panned, much-doubted foray by Sony Pictures to kick-start a Marvel expansion away from "Spider-Man." Warner Bros.' "A Star Is Born" remake rode a wave of hype, Oscar buzz and acclaim for Cooper's directorial debut and Lady Gaga's first leading performance.

One was a very iffy proposition; the other a sure thing. Both worked big time.

"We knew we had a hit," said Warner Bros. distribution chief Jeffrey Goldstein of "A Star Is Born." "We also knew that every time people saw the movie, they felt it, they cried, they loved it. People just like the movie."

That was more in question for director Ruben Fleischer's "Venom," starring Tom Hardy as the antihero who first appeared in 2007's "Spider-Man 3." The film earned a dismal 32 percent "fresh" rating on Rotten Tomatoes. In "Venom," many expected another studio misfire with "cinematic universe" ambitions.

Yet audiences flocked to "Venom" in record numbers, giving it a B-plus CinemaScore. The previous best October opening was 2013's "Gravity" with $55.7 million (not adjusted for inflation). Adrian Smith, president of domestic distribution for Sony, said that even though the studio was confident, "I did not see $80 million coming."

The most telling number that explained the film's success, Smith said, was the 89 percent "fresh" audience score on Rotten Tomatoes. "Venom," which cost about $100 million to make (relatively modest for a superhero film), grossed a total of $205.2 million globally.

Steven O'Dell, Sony's president of international distribution, said the studio wanted to carve out a new approach for the comic-book adaptation with the PG-13-rated "Venom."

"This is not a Marvel style; it's not DC," O'Dell said. "Tonally, it's its own unique direction."

While "Venom" attracted a younger, majority male audience, crowds for "A Star is Born" were more female, at 66 percent, and older, at 68 percent over 35.

"In our older audience, we had people who hadn't been to a movie in years," Goldstein said.

Warner Bros., which premiered "A Star Is Born" last month at the Venice Film Festival, previewed the film in special advance screenings in the days ahead of opening, adding an additional $1.3 million in ticket sales. The fifth version of the oft-remade tale, which cost about $40 million to make, had been in development at Warner Bros. for decades, with earlier versions to potentially star Whitney Houston or Beyonce.

With "A Star Is Born" expected to play a large role in awards season, Goldstein said the film is sure to run through Christmas. The movie's soundtrack also reached No. 1 on iTunes this week.

The two films dominated the marketplace, though in limited release, Fox 2000's "The Hate U Give" opened with $500,000 on 36 screens. That gave George Tillman Jr.'s adaptation of Angie Thomas' best-selling young adult novel, starring Amandla Stenberg, a modest $14,000 per-screen average. The film is set to expand nationwide in the next two weeks.

Aubrey Wells, who wrote "The Hate U Give" adaptation, died Friday at age 58 after a five-year battle with cancer.

"Venom" and "A Star Is Born" helped push the year-to-date box office further above last year, now up 9.2 percent.

"The industry is absolutely on fire right now," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore. "We just finished the second-best September ever. If we keep this up, there's no question we're going to get a record."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday also are included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. **"Venom,"** $80 million ($125.2 million international).
2. **"A Star Is Born,"** $41.3 million ($14 million international).
3. **"Smallfoot,"** $14.9 million ($11.7 million international).
4. **"Night School,"** $12.3 million ($3.4 million international).
5. **"The House With a Clock in Its Walls,"** $7.3 million.
6. **"A Simple Favor,"** $3.4 million ($4.1 million international).
7. **"The Nun,"** $2.6 million ($7.2 million international).
8. **"Hell Fest,"** $2.1 million.
9. **"Crazy Rich Asians,"** $2.1 million ($1.6 million international).
10. **"MET Opera: Aida,"** $1.2 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore:

1. **"Venom,"** $125 million.
2. **"Project Guttenberg,"** $38 million.
3. **"Shadow,"** $17.9 million.
4. **"Hello, Mrs. Money,"** $15.6 million.
5. **"Johnny English Strikes Again,"** $14.1 million.
6. **"A Star Is Born,"** $14 million.
7. **"Smallfoot,"** $11.7 million.
8. **"Dark Figures of Crime,"** $9 million.
9. **"Fat Buddies,"** $8 million.
10. **"The Nun,"** $7.2 million.

Taylor Swift breaks political silence, backs Tennessee Dems

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Music superstar Taylor Swift announced Sunday she's voting for Tennessee's Democratic Senate candidate Phil Bredesen, breaking her longstanding refusal to discuss anything politics.

"In the past I've been reluctant to publicly voice my political opinions, but due to several events in my life and in the world in the past two years, I feel very differently about that now," Swift wrote in an Instagram post .

AP
Taylor Swift performs at DIRECTV NOW Super Saturday Night Concert at Club Nomadic on Saturday, Feb. 4, 2017 in Houston, Texas.

Swift has faced criticism for not speaking about political issues despite having a global platform. Yet in 2017, she appeared on the cover of Time magazine as one of the "silence breakers" for her countersuit against a radio DJ who was fired after allegedly groping her before a concert. Swift won the lawsuit in a verdict that awarded her $1, which according to the suit served as "an example to other women who may resist publicly reliving similar outrageous and humiliating acts."

The pop star—who spent later years growing up in Tennessee—also slammed Republican candidate and U.S. Rep. Marsha Blackburn in her lengthy post on Sunday, citing Blackburn's opposition to certain LGBTQ rights and voting against the Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act in 2013.

"As much as I have in the past and would like to continue voting for women in office, I cannot support Marsha Blackburn. Her voting record in Congress appalls and terrifies me," Swift wrote.

Blackburn's campaign did not immediately return a request for comment.

Swift said she's not only voting for the former Tennessee governor for Senate, but also Democrat Jim Cooper for the House.

However, Swift didn't acknowledge Bredesen's recent endorsement of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh, but said people may never find a candidate or party with whom they agree completely on every issue.

"Thank you for the kind words ... I'm honored to have your support and that of so many Tennesseans who are ready to put aside the partisan shouting and get things done. We're ready for it," Bredesen tweeted Sunday in response to Swift's post.

Fanfare, red velvet cake for Princess Eugenie's wedding

LONDON (AP)—There will be military fanfare and red velvet cake when Princess Eugenie weds this week—Britain's second royal wedding of the year.

The 28-year-old granddaughter of Queen Elizabeth II is due to marry liquor company executive Jack Brooksbank on Friday in St. George's Chapel at Windsor Castle.

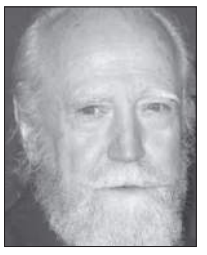
Prince Harry, her cousin, and American actress Meghan Markle married at the same venue in May.

Buckingham Palace said Sunday that Eugenie's service will feature a trumpet fanfare and Scottish pipers, a performance by Italian singer Andrea Bocelli and a prayer written by Archbishop of York John Sentamu.

London baker Sophie Cabot is making the red velvet-and-chocolate wedding cake, billed as "a traditional cake with a modern feel."

The younger daughter of Prince Andrew and his ex-wife Sarah Ferguson, Eugenie is ninth in line to the British throne.

Scott Wilson, 'In Cold Blood' and 'Walking Dead' actor, dies



Wilson

NEW YORK (AP)—Scott Wilson, who played the murderer Richard Hickock in 1967's "In Cold Blood" and was a series regular on "The Walking Dead," has died. He was 76.

AMC, the show's network, announced Wilson's death Saturday. The network called Wilson's character on "The Walking Dead," veterinarian Hershel Greene, "the emotional core of the show."

Wilson starred on series from 2011 to 2014. His return for the upcoming season was announced just hours earlier on Saturday. Wilson already filmed his scenes for season nine.

In the same year as Wilson's breakthrough in "In Cold Blood," he also played murder suspect Harvey Oberst in "In the Heat of the Night."

He appeared in 1974's "The Great Gatsby" as George Wilson, in "The Right Stuff" as pilot Scott Crossfield and earned a Golden Globe nomination in 1980 for his performance in "The Ninth Configuration," in which he played a former astronaut.

Comedian Katt Williams jailed on assault charges in Oregon

SALEM, Ore. (AP)—Comedian Katt Williams has been arrested on suspicion of assaulting a hired driver during an argument about taking him and his dog from the Portland, Oregon, airport to a performance in the city.

Williams, who was in jail Sunday, came to Portland to perform in Nick Cannon's "Wild 'N Out" comedy improv show Friday night.

The town car driver had swelling and cuts on his face and was treated at a hospital, according to Port of Portland police. The comedian, 47, whose real name is Micah Williams, left in another vehicle and was arrested Saturday.

Williams has been charged with assault in the fourth degree, and an arraignment is scheduled for Monday. He also was arrested for an out-of-state warrant from Georgia.

A publicist for Williams, whose comedy specials have appeared on HBO and Netflix, didn't immediately respond to messages seeking comment. A jail official and a spokesman for the district attorney's office said they didn't know if the comedian had an attorney who could speak on his behalf.

The incident happened at Atlantic Aviation, which handles private planes at Portland International Airport, police said. An employee who answered the phone Sunday said her boss had told workers not to discuss the case.

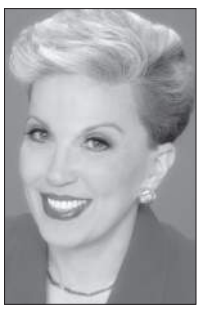
Williams won the Emmy Award last month for guest actor in a comedy series for his appearance in "Atlanta," a TV show about two cousins in Atlanta's rap scene.

His arrest comes more than a year after Williams was sentenced to three years of probation in Los Angeles after pleading no contest to stealing a celebrity photographer's camera. Prosecutors said in April 2017 that he also needed to attend anger management classes.

In 2016, Williams got five years of probation after pleading no contest in Georgia to assault and battery tied to allegations he threatened a bodyguard while an acquaintance beat him with a baseball bat.

Opposites share long marriage despite leading separate lives

DEAR ABBY
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 30 years. Although my husband and I are both positive people, we have not had a happy marriage.

He leads the life of a bachelor, including sex with other women and unilateral decision-making. He's outgoing, generous and well-liked. I'm a homebody who often feels lonely and rejected.

Outsiders would be surprised at the true nature of our relationship. We have been to counseling, but it didn't help. Why do I stay in this marriage? What's wrong with me? Are there others like me?

INCREDULOUS IN INDIANA

DEAR INCREDULOUS: You wouldn't have stayed married to your husband if you didn't derive some benefit from it. Because counseling didn't change the dynamic between you and your husband doesn't mean you shouldn't have some independently.

Your problem may be lack of self-esteem or fear of being alone, a problem shared by many women in dysfunctional marriages. If you're sincere about finding the answers to your questions, they await you in the office of a licensed therapist.

DEAR ABBY: My older sister recently passed away after a 22-year battle with lupus. She beat the odds for so long, and even gave us the miracle that is her son.

Logically, I understand that medically there was nothing left the doctors could do, but emotionally I feel like I killed her because I went along with the doctors. Is it normal to feel this guilt?

I have nightmares every night now because I hear her last words. I see how she was both on and off life support. When I make myself eat, I overeat. But honestly, I could easily go back to never eating like I did before. Is all of this normal for the grief process?

FEELING GUILTY IN OREGON

DEAR FEELING GUILTY: Yes, what you're experiencing is normal—to a degree. However, if the nightmares and feelings of guilt persist, discuss them with a grief counselor or a religious adviser.

You alluded to having "gone along with the doctors." If by that you mean you agreed that your sister should receive palliative care at the end, you did her a favor, not a disservice.

DEAR ABBY: I dated this woman for almost a year. It ended when she gave me an ultimatum: convert to her religion or walk. She is Pentecostal, and I am Catholic. We are both deeply rooted to our own churches.

A few months have gone by. She still has deep feelings for me, but I don't know if I feel the same way because of her ultimatum. One of us must convert or we won't be able to move forward. But there are big differences between the two religions. What should I do?

CONVERTING IN THE SOUTH

DEAR CONVERTING: Because you are deeply rooted in your Catholicism and no longer sure you feel the same way about her, let her go so she can find a good Pentecostal husband. Religion is something a person must believe in, not switch to please someone else. There are plenty of fish in the sea for both of you, so keep fishing.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

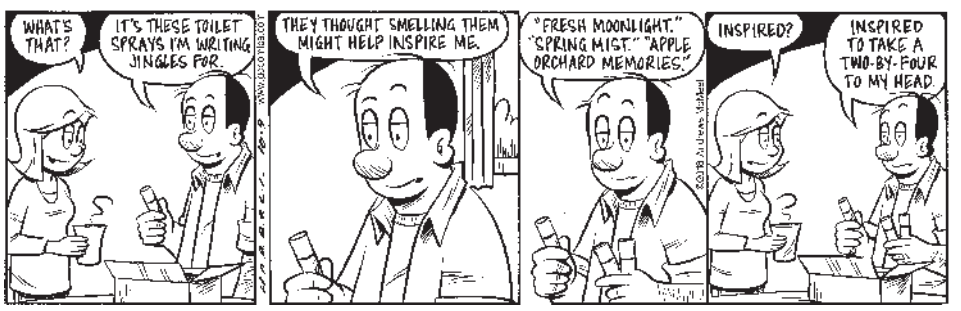
SHEESH, IT'S TWO IN THE MORNING. WHY DO KIDS ALWAYS FEEL SICK AT TWO IN THE MORNING?
CALVIN PROBABLY JUST ATE TOO MUCH DESSERT. IF HE'S GOING TO GET ME UP AT THIS HOUR, HE'D BETTER REALLY BE SICK.
BARF
I DIDN'T MEAN IT!
HONEY, PIPE DOWN. I'M TRYING TO SLEEP.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

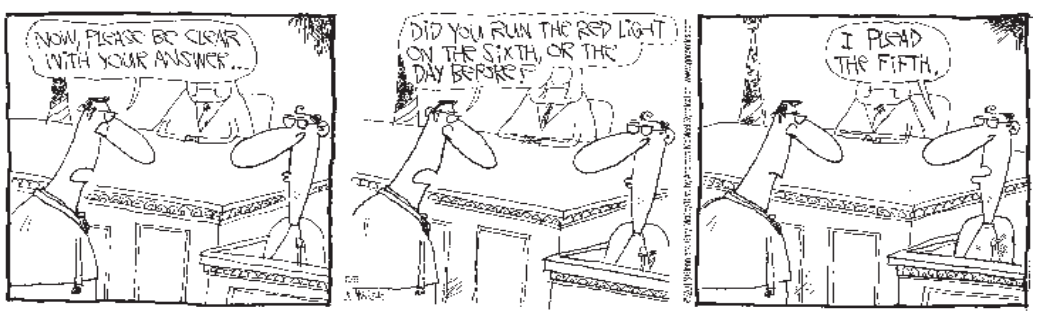
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S THESE TOILET SPRAYS I'M WRITING JINGLES FOR.
THEY THOUGHT SMELLING THEM MIGHT HELP INSPIRE ME.
"FRESH MOONLIGHT." "SPRING MIST." "APPLE ORCHARD MEMORIES."
INSPIRED?
INSPIRED TO TAKE A TWO-BY-FOUR TO MY HEAD.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Corned beef recipe
5 Stetson, e.g.
8 Strike callers
12 New York canal
13 Discoverer's call
14 Actress Gilpin
15 Anger
16 "My Shot" Broadway show
18 Soaking spot
20 Condemns
21 Goal
22 Pod veggie
23 Shrimp's kin
26 "A Whole New World" Broadway show
30 Corn spike
31 Author Tan
32 Employ
33 "All That Jazz" Broadway show
36 Monastery VIP
38 Top card
39 Compete
40 Marble cake pattern
43 Bed cushions
47 "If I Loved You" Broadway show
49 "Got it"
50 Exam format
51 100% 52 Flair
53 Emmy-winning Daly
54 Pot brew
55 Type choice

DOWN

1 Basil or thyme
2 La Scala solo
3 Sediment
4 Donkey sound
5 [Yawn]
6 Melville captain
7 Male cat
8 Digital transfer
9 "Fly — the Moon"
10 High school dance
11 Deadly septet
17 Concept
19 Can metal
22 Layer
23 Chest muscle
24 Fan's cry
25 "Exodus" hero
26 I love (Lat.)
27 Fix the soundtrack
28 Equi-
29 Court divider
31 Bio stat
34 Singer/songwriter King
35 Rights org.
36 Be sick
37 Conviction
39 Country estate
40 Kilt wearer
41 Cautious
42 Persia, today
43 Soccer legend
44 Norway's capital
45 Withdraw gradually
46 Faxed
48 Perched

Solution time: 22 mins.

C	O	A	X		V	C	R		S	T	A	G
L	A	R	A		I	N	E		T	E	R	I
I	T	I	N		E	N	D	G	A	M	E	S
O	H	D	A	R	N		O	O	M	P	A	H
			D	O	N	G		O	P	T		
E	N	D	U	S	F	R	S		S	I	A	M
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		O	A	T		D	E	C	C			
B	O	O	G	I	E		I	E	M	P	E	H
E	N	D	E	A	V	O	R		C	R	L	Y
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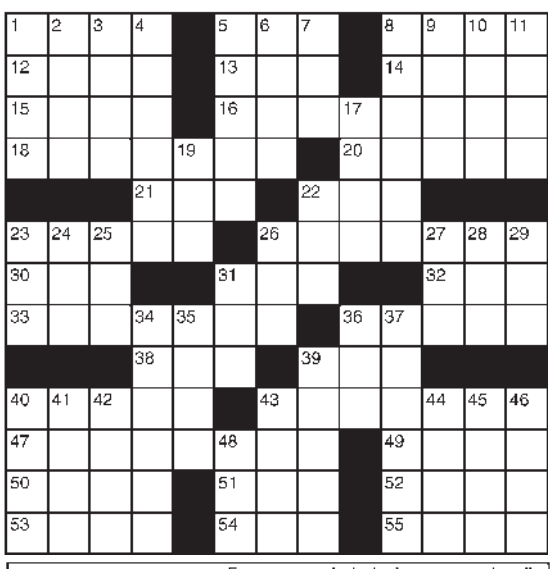
S	C	R	T		R	E	P		L	O	G	S

Yesterday's answer 10-9



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Brandon Routh, 39; Scott Bakula, 64; Tony Shalhoub, 65; Sharon Osbourne, 66.

Happy Birthday: Direct your energy wisely. You'll have choices to make that can alter the way you live and how well you do. Be willing to learn and hone your skills as well as apply your attributes to fit the changing times in which we live. It's important to keep up and to work alongside those who share your beliefs. Your numbers are 5, 16, 19, 22, 31, 35, 46.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Fight fire with fire. Intensity coupled with strong beliefs will overpower anyone trying to stand in your way. Plan your actions and execute them with precision to get the results you want. A steady pace will lead to positive changes. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* You'll be faced with all sorts of options that will require you to be accurate. Dealing with matters that concern co-workers, employers, or government, financial or medical institutions will require consistency. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Step up and offer to help others. Taking on tasks that allow you to show your strengths will have an impact on others. Some will be jealous of what you have accomplished, and others will offer suggestions that will help further your goals. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Keep an open mind. If you are angry or upset, a decision you make will lead to regret. Back up and rethink your strategy carefully before you proceed. Concentrate on personal gains that will enhance your life. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Think about the outcome before you make a move. It's in your power to choose the right thing to do. Live up to your promises, and you'll avoid being called out by someone who is counting on you. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Taking a serious step in a direction that encourages personal stability will give you a closer look at the path you should pursue. Improvements to the way you live will also lead to friendships that are beneficial. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* A positive change to the way you handle your money, health and relationships with others will give you a burst of energy and ease your stress. Don't let anyone criticize or take away from what you've accomplished. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Be careful while traveling or dealing with someone who tends to be argumentative. Stay focused on the changes you want to make and the people who have helped you in the past. Don't share your personal secrets, or rumors will spread quickly. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* You've got more going for you than you realize. Call in favors and make plans that will encourage greater prosperity. Taking care of someone else's affairs will be time-consuming but can serve as a reminder of how to conduct your own more efficiently. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Don't trust what others tell you. If you want the facts, go to the source. Changes based on an assumption will lead to regret. An unusual opportunity should be taken advantage of if you feel it's in your best interest. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* There is money to be made. Go over your personal investments or check out an opportunity that interests you. Negotiations will lead to unexpected benefits if you handle matters on your own. Say no to any sort of indulgent behavior. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Take a broader look at what's going on. Consider what's true before getting involved in a joint venture. Stick to what you know and do best instead of partnering with someone you know little about. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are charismatic, genuine and resourceful. You are passionate and innovative.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

3					8			1
		6	3	9	2	7		
	4		1		5		3	
6	1			2			5	7
	8		4		9		6	
		7	2	3	4	5		
9				5				6

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

9	5	2	3	8	4	1	7	6
4	6	7	1	5	2	3	8	9
8	1	3	9	6	7	2	5	4
3	2	8	4	9	5	6	1	7
6	7	4	2	1	3	8	9	5
5	9	1	6	7	8	4	2	3
2	3	9	5	4	1	7	6	8
7	4	5	8	2	6	9	3	1
1	8	6	7	3	9	5	4	2

Difficulty Level ★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

NEIL SIMON (1927-2018) Solution: 12 letters

S	B	H	O	U	R	E	D	N	A	L	R	I	G	E
E	R	A	E	Z	I	R	P	R	O	D	U	C	E	R
U	Y	E	I	C	A	E	S	A	R	S	N	T	C	O
L	N	D	K	M	H	E	Y	B	D	O	O	G	N	O
B	E	I	A	N	Y	D	E	M	O	C	V	I	A	M
I	L	A	B	R	O	A	D	W	A	Y	E	F	M	E
X	L	N	A	N	C	Y	L	E	N	O	L	T	O	O
O	E	E	D	H	D	C	N	O	T	H	G	I	R	B
L	E	C	O	N	T	H	G	I	R	W	Y	A	L	P
I	N	R	Y	A	P	U	L	I	T	Z	E	R	U	A
B	I	A	N	O	S	A	M	A	H	S	R	A	M	R
O	A	F	O	J	J	B	A	R	E	F	O	O	T	K
U	L	I	T	T	L	E	M	E	F	O	O	L	S	Y
N	E	W	Y	O	R	K	C	I	T	Y	P	L	E	U
D	I	N	N	E	R	P	A	R	T	Y	R	R	A	G

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Baim, Barefoot, Beach, Biloxi, Blues, Bound, Brighton, Broadway, Bryn, Caesars, Comedy, Diane, Dinner Party, Drama, Elaine, Ellen, Farce, Fools, Garry, Gift, Girl, Goodbye, Guy, Hour, Joan, Joyce, Lander, Little Me, Lonely, Lost in Yonkers, Marsha, Mason, Moore, Nancy, New York City, Novel, Park, Playwright, Prize, Producer, Pulitzer, Romance, Tony

Yesterday's Answer: Leftovers

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 39 through 54, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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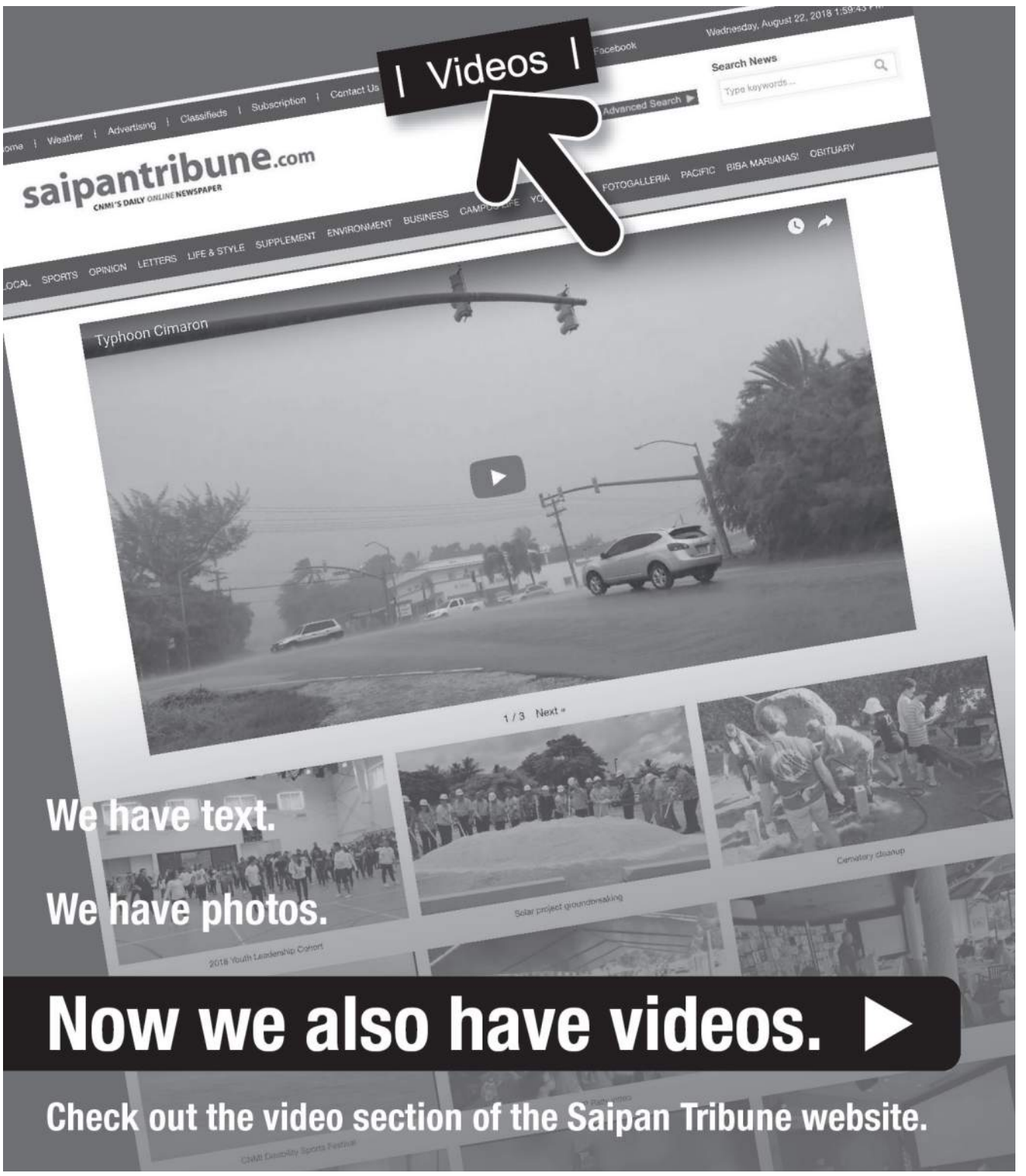

WHATZIT Solution: Whistle in the dark

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Classified Ads

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Classified Ads

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REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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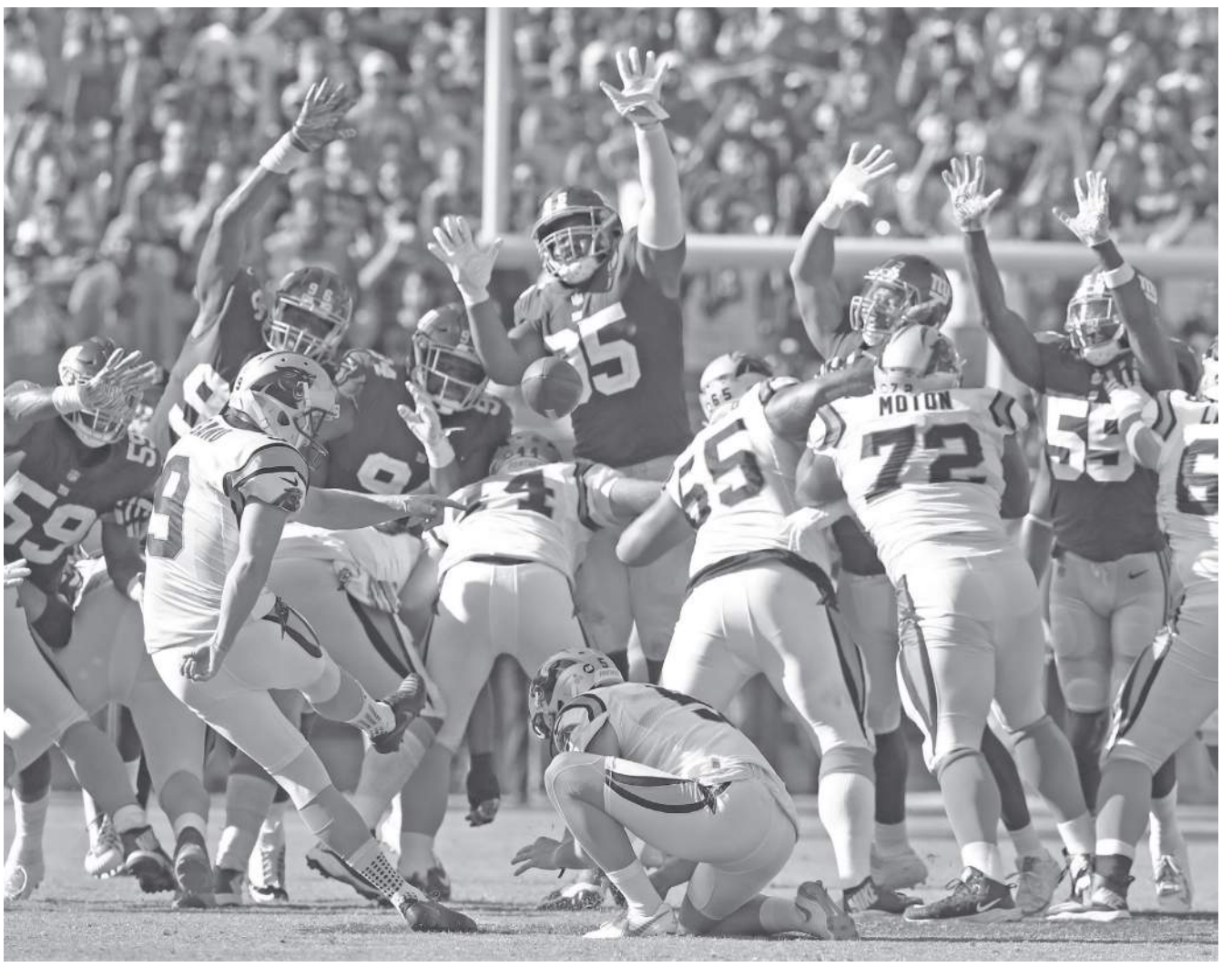


AP

Carolina Panthers' Graham Gano (9) kicks the game-winning field goal against the New York Giants in the second half of an NFL football game in Charlotte, N.C., Sunday, Oct. 7, 2018.

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Graham Gano connected on a career-long 63-yard field goal with 1 second remaining to lift the Carolina Panthers to a wild 33-31 victory over the New York Giants on Sunday.

Gano's winning kick, tied for second longest in league history, came after the Giants erased a 14-point deficit. Eli Manning hooked up with Saquon Barkley on a 15-yard touchdown pass down the right sideline—the rookie made a long dive into the end zone—to put the Giants in front 31-30 with 1:08 remaining.

Gano's previous career long was 59 yards. He was 4 for 4 on field goal attempts and has made 35 in a row at home dating back to 2016.

It's the second year in a row the Giants (1-4) have been beaten by a monster field goal at the end. In the third game last season, Jake Elliott of the Eagles kicked a 61-yarder for a 27-24 win.

Cam Newton threw for 237 yards and had two touchdowns and two interceptions. Christian McCaffrey had 93 yards from scrimmage and an 18-yard touchdown catch for the Panthers (3-1).

Manning finished 22 of 36 for 326 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions, both by Panthers 37-year-old safety Mike Adams. Odell Beckham Jr., had a big game as a receiver and passer. Beckham had eight catches for 131 yards and a touchdown and also threw a 57-yarder to Barkley for New York's first touchdown.

Browns 12, Ravens 9, OT

In Cleveland, rookie Greg Joseph's 37-yard field goal—a knuckleball that barely cleared the crossbar—with 2 seconds left in overtime.

After rookie quarterback Baker Mayfield drove the Browns (2-2-1) into position, Joseph, signed after Week 2 following Zane Gonzalez's release, lined his kick through the uprights to give Cleveland its first AFC North win in 19 tries.

As Browns fans celebrated just the team's second win in two seasons, Joseph was mobbed by his teammates following Cleveland's third OT game in five weeks.

Vikings 23, Eagles 21

In Philadelphia, Kirk Cousins threw for 301 yards and one touchdown, Linval Joseph returned a fumble 64 yards for a score and the Vikings won a rematch of last season's NFC championship game.

Carson Wentz and the rest of Philadelphia's offense again struggled as the defending Super Bowl champions fell to 2-3.

Nick Foles led the Eagles to a 38-7 rout over Case Keenum and Minnesota's top-ranked defense in the title game on his way to earning MVP honors against New England.

Rams 33, Seahawks 31

In Seattle, Todd Gurley rushed for three touchdowns, Jared Goff passed for 321 yards and a score and the Rams remained unbeaten.

Playing without their top two receivers due to concussions suffered late in the first half, the Rams leaned heavily on Goff, Gurley and wide receiver Robert Woods to escape Seattle and improve to 5-0.

Gurley scored on a 2-yard run in the first quarter, and added TDs of 2 and 5 yards in the second half. Gurley's third rushing TD on the second play of the fourth quarter pulled the Rams within 31-30. But new kicker Cairo Santos hooked the extra point attempt and Seattle maintained a one-point lead.

Chargers 26, Raiders 10

In Carson, Philip Rivers threw for 339 yards and two touchdowns, the 59th 300-yard passing game of Rivers' 15-year career and his eighth against the Raiders. He completed 22 of 27 passes and had a passer rating of 143.4.

Melvin Gordon had 120 yards from scrimmage (58 rushing, 62 receiving). His 1-yard run during the second quarter gave Los Angeles (3-2) a 17-3 lead at halftime.

Derek Carr was 24 of 38 for 268 yards for the Raiders (1-4). He accounted for Oakland's lone touchdown in the fourth quarter on a 1-yard pass to Jordy Nelson which brought the Raiders within 27-10.

Cardinals 28, 49ers 18

In Santa Clara, Josh Rosen threw a 75-yard touchdown pass to fellow rookie Christian Kirk on Arizona's first play from scrimmage and the Cardinals used five takeaways to get their first win.

The Cardinals (1-4) were unable to do much more on offense the rest of the way, with their only other scores coming on Josh Bynes' fumble return for a TD and David Johnson TD runs on two short drives after turnovers by the 49ers (1-4).

Chiefs 30, Jaguars 14

In Kansas City, the Chiefs' beleaguered defense forced Jacksonville quarterback Blake Bortles into five turnovers, including a pick-6 by defensive tackle Chris Jones, and Kansas City merely had to supplement with the NFL's highest-scoring offense.

Patrick Mahomes threw for 313 yards and ran for a touchdown, though he also threw his first two picks of the season. Kareem Hunt added 87 yards and a touchdown on the ground as the Chiefs (5-0) marched all over the league's top-ranked defense at soggy Arrowhead Stadium.

Lions 31, Packers 23

In Detroit, Matthew Stafford threw two touchdown passes and LeGarrette Blount ran for two scores. Detroit (2-3) earned a win it desperately needed under first-year coach Matt Patricia, going into its bye week.

Green Bay (2-2-1) could not overcome uncharacteristic mistakes by veteran kicker Mason Crosby and two-time NFL MVP Aaron Rodgers, who lost two fumbles for just the third time in his 14-year career.

Crosby missed a career-high four field goals in one game and botched an extra point to boot.

Jets 34, Broncos 16

In East Rutherford, Isaiah Crowell ran for a franchise-record 219 yards, including a 77-yard touchdown, and Sam Darnold threw two TD passes to Robby Anderson, including a 76-yarder.

Darnold also had a TD toss to Terrelle Pryor that sealed the game late in the fourth quarter for the Jets (2-3). The rookie quarterback finished 10 of 22 for 198 yards and the three scores with an interception to help New York to its first win since the season opener.

Bengals 27, Dolphins 17

In Cincinnati, Michael Johnson returned an interception for the tying score, and Sam Hubbard went 19 yards with a fumble for the clinching touchdown, rallying the Bengals from a 17-point deficit.

With Joe Mixon back from knee surgery, the defense making more game-turning plays in the fourth quarter, Cincinnati (4-1) pulled off its biggest comeback of the season and extended its best start since its 2015 playoff season.

Steelers 41, Falcons 17

In Pittsburgh, Ben Roethlisberger and Antonio Brown connected on two second-half touchdowns and the Steelers pulled away from the Falcons.

Roethlisberger finished 19 of 29 for 250 yards and three scores, including a 9-yard strike to Brown in the third quarter and a 47-yard dart to the All-Pro wide receiver early in the fourth as Pittsburgh (2-2-1) put together its most complete performance of the season.

Titans 13, Bills 12

In Orchard Park, Stephen Hauschka hit a 46-yard field goal as time expired. Buffalo's defense forced three turnovers, and LeSean McCoy broke from a September slump with a season-best 85 yards rushing. McCoy sparked the decisive drive with a 13-yard catch on third-and-3. And backup running back Chris Ivory had a 9-yard run in getting the Bills across midfield.

Irving pledges loyalty to Celtics

BOSTON—Celtics star Kyrie Irving will be one of the NBA's most sought-after free agents next summer, but he says he's not going anywhere.

"If you guys will have me back, I plan on re-signing here," Irving said during an event at TD Garden.

Take this with a grain of salt, of course, as Irving famously told a young Cleveland Cavaliers fan in 2013 that he wasn't going to leave but then forced his way out four years later. Still, this has to be music to the ears of Celtics fans, and it makes perfect sense.

Irving, a five-time All-Star who spent six seasons in Cleveland, is one of the league's top point guards, and the Celtics have a bright future. It starts with Irving and All-Star Gordon Hayward, who both suffered season-ending injuries last year, but up-and-coming stars Jayson Tatum, Jaylen Brown and Terry Rozier also make this group so intriguing.

At media day last week, Irving praised the Celtics for developing into one of the top teams in the league and becoming a true title contender.

"Obviously it's everybody else's job to look forward to my future before I can, so I just really thought it was important to make sure it's known that this franchise is really built for the next few years of being at the top tier of teams in the league," Irving said. "Who wouldn't want to be a part of that? What more could you ask for from an organization to really elevate your game?

"When you want to be on the same lineage of greatness as the guys that have come before you, there are times where I have thought about having No. 11 in the rafters, hopefully, one day. That's a dream. It wasn't so much like that coming out, but it's the truth. I feel that way about my teammates, I feel that way about the organization and I'm looking forward to the challenge this year."

Brewers sweep Rockies, advance to NLCS

DENVER (AP)—The 38-year-old journeyman catcher looked to his left and spotted his Milwaukee Brewers teammates spilling out of the dugout. Erik Kratz then looked straight ahead and saw his reliever standing alone.

So he took off for Josh Hader to give him, "the biggest hug. Because you celebrate all your celebrations. Because you never know if you're going to get another one," Kratz said.

Wade Miley pitched masterfully into the fifth inning before turning it over to a lights-out Milwaukee bullpen , Kratz kept up his torrid hitting and the Brewers beat the Colorado Rockies 6-0 in Game 3 on a cool, misty Sunday to sweep their NL Division Series.

The Brewers have won 11 straight dating to the regular season and advance to their first NL Championship Series since 2011. They will play the winner of the Dodgers-Braves series, starting Friday at Miller Park—by the time that game starts, it will have been nearly three weeks since Milwaukee lost.

"One at a time, man. That's what we've been saying, one at a time," NL MVP candidate Christian Yelich said. "Focus on the now."

In between sprays of sparkling wine inside the clubhouse, a chant rose up for Yelich: "M-V-P! M-V-P!"

No surprise, after the season he had.

But then the team started chanting the same thing for Kratz.

"That might be the champagne talking," Kratz cracked.

With manager Craig Counsell making all the right moves, Milwaukee's pitching staff held Nolan Arenado, Trevor Story and the bruising Rockies to a combined two runs and 14 hits in the series. Of the 28 innings in the matchup, Colorado scored in only one of them.

"The story of the series for us was certainly our pitching," Counsell said.

It's been that way for a couple weeks now, including Milwaukee's 3-1 win over the Cubs at Wrigley Field last Monday in the NL Central tiebreaker. The next day, the Rockies outlasted the Cubs 2-1 in 13 innings to win the wild-card game.

Making his postseason debut, Miley toughed the elements—he wore short sleeves when the temperature was 46 degrees—and was even tougher on Rockies hitters. The wily left-hander allowed three hits over 4 2/3 innings.

A procession of five Brewers relievers allowed one hit the rest of the way. With two on, Hader got Ian Desmond to fly out to end the ninth and start an on-field celebration.

The first one to greet Hader was Kratz, who made his second postseason start and finished 3 for 4 with a double. Acquired from the New York Yankees in May for a player to be named, Kratz is making quite a name for himself in the playoffs. He went 5 for 8 in the series.

"I really feel like I've played my last game for the last 12 years because the game doesn't owe anybody anything," Kratz said. "When you understand that you appreciate these times more than anything else."

Orlando Arcia and Keon Broxton hit back-to-back homers in the ninth off Wade Davis to make it 6-0 and end any sort of drama. Jesus Aguilar had a solo shot in the fourth off German Marquez that Counsell sort of predicted.

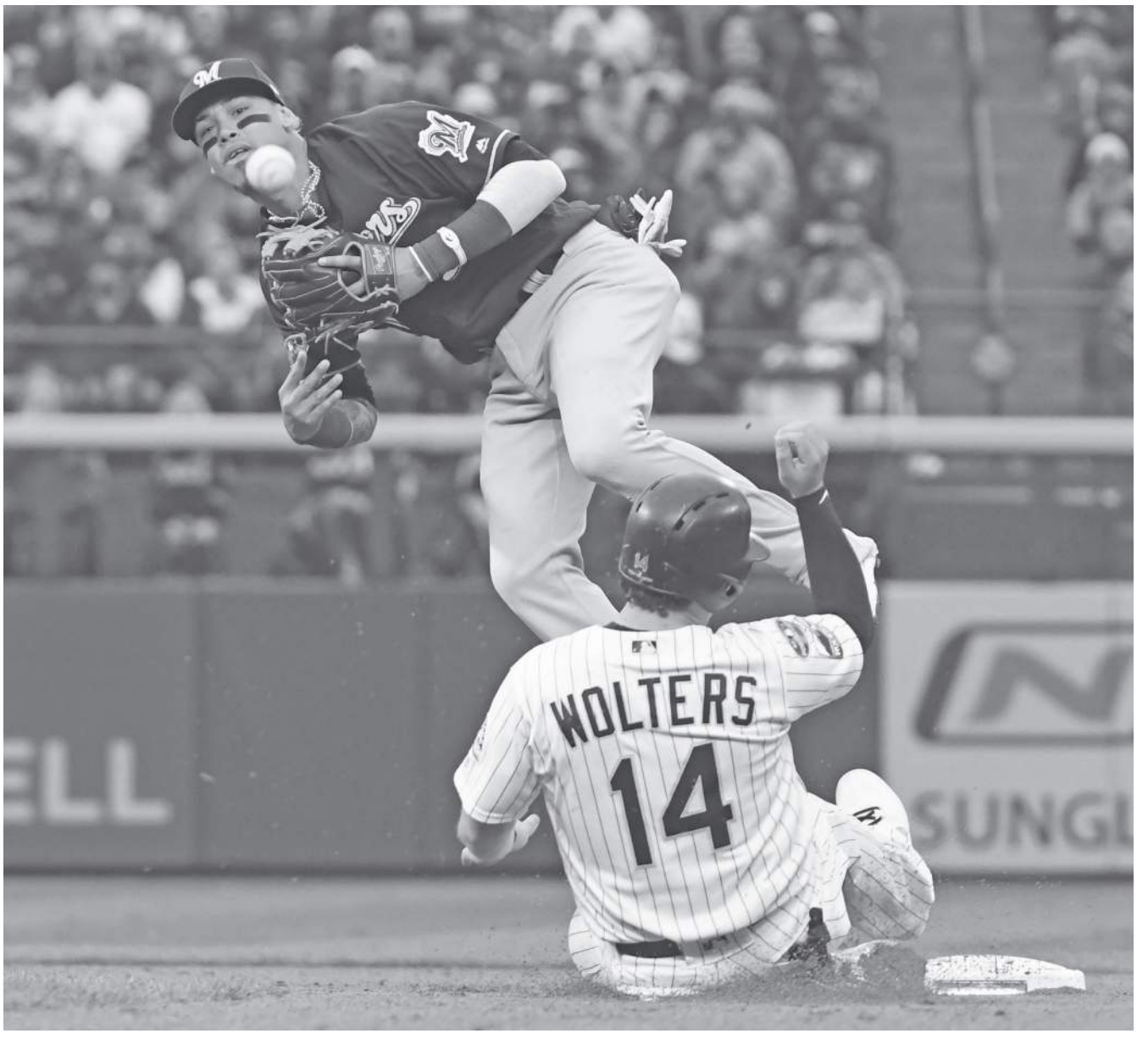
The Brewers manager said Saturday, "Aggie is going to hit a home run in the playoffs, a big homer with men on base, I promise."

Granted, it wasn't with men on base. But it was still big and gave the Brewers a 2-0 lead.

That was more than enough against a Colorado offense that was shut out twice in the series and hit .146 against Milwaukee's stingy pitching. Colorado's three All-Stars—Story, Arenado and Charlie Blackmon—finished the series with a combined five hits.

"We got into the dance. We fought, but we might not have played our best," Rockies manager Bud Black said. "Part of that is the opposition, how they played."

This is how well it went for the Brewers on the drizzly day: They scored twice in the sixth without a hit—one on a balk and another on a wild pitch, with Kratz lumbering home for the second run.



AP

Milwaukee Brewers shortstop Orlando Arcia, back, throws to first base after forcing out Colorado Rockies' Tony Wolters at second base on a ground ball hit by pinch-hitter Garrett Hampson in the sixth inning of Game 3 of a baseball National League Division Series Sunday, Oct. 7, 2018, in Denver.

Braves beat Dodgers, extend NDLS

In Atlanta, Freddie Freeman put the Atlanta Braves ahead, then watched from first base as they almost give away the lead—and possibly their whole season.

"My heart's still pounding," he said, moments after the last out. "That's how we've been all year."

Reliever Arodys Vizcaino escaped his own jam in a nervy ninth inning and the Braves stopped the Los Angeles Dodgers, 6-5, avoiding a sweep and cutting their deficit in the NL Division Series to 2-1.

"I like our chances. We've got a uniform on, so we know we've got a chance," Freeman said.

Rookie Ronald Acuna Jr. hit a grand slam that helped the Braves build an early 5-0 lead. After the Dodgers rallied to tie it, Freeman homered in the sixth.

In the ninth, the Dodgers got runners on first and second with no outs after a single and a walk. Vizcaino came back from a 3-0 count to strike out slugger Max Muncy, and followed up by fanning Manny Machado on a wild pitch that moved the runners to second and third.

Because the Braves had already used their allotment of six mound visits, no one could go out to talk with the Atlanta closer, to give him a moment to settle down.

Not that he needed a break, apparently.

With the entire crowd at SunTrust Park standing, chanting and chopping, Vizcaino fanned a swinging Brian Dozier to end it.

Judge blares 'New York, New York,' as Red Sox head to Bronx

NEW YORK (AP) — Aaron Judge walked past Boston's Fenway Park clubhouse early Sunday morning, Frank Sinatra's rendition of "New York, New York" blaring from a boom box atop the wheelie bag he was pulling with his left hand.

"It's a good song. And Aaron, he's one of our resident deejays, so he's got a pretty extensive playlist," New York manager Aaron Boone said later in the day at Yankee Stadium, a smirk filling his face. "We like to hear that song sometimes when we win a big game."

New York and Boston split at Fenway Park and are tied 1-1 in the best-of-five AL Division Series going into Game 3 on Monday night. Luis Severino, coming off four scoreless innings in the wild-card game against Oakland, starts for New York and former Yankees pitcher Nathan Eovaldi pitches for the Red Sox.

Severino was 10-2 with a 2.74 ERA and .217 opponents' batting average at home, just 9-6 with a 3.99 ERA and .257 opponents' batting average on the road.

"Maybe my wife cooks better food here," he said.

New York is 19-9 in the postseason at new Yankee Stadium, where boisterous Bronx crowds try to intimidate. The Yankees' were 53-28 there during the regular season, the second-best home record behind Boston's 57-24. The win over Oakland in last week's wild-card game improved New York to 7-0 at home in the postseason since the start of the 2017 playoffs.

"The fans, they're out there on the field with you," Judge said. "Every single pitch they're locked in. It's electric."

New York is built for Yankee Stadium, where it takes advantage of the short right-field porch and hit 144 of its record 267 home runs. Boston is constructed in a similar fashion, knowing half its games are played in front of Fenway's Green Monster lurking in left field.

"Two places that are historic franchises where the fans are definitely rowdy for their home team and against the visiting team," Red Sox reliever Matt Barnes said .

This will be the first postseason game in the Bronx between the rivals since Boston won Games 6 and 7 of the 2004 AL Championship Series across the street at old Yankee Stadium, becoming the first major league team to overcome a 3-0 deficit in a best-of-seven postseason series.

"All empires fall sooner or later," then-Red Sox president Larry Lucchino said that night.

A year earlier, Boone's 11th-inning homer off Tim Wakefield won Game 7 and the AL pennant. Now he's a rookie manager, leading a group of Baby Bombers that reached Game 7 of the AL Championship Series last year before losing to Houston.

"This fan base I feel like absolutely connected with kind of this new generation of Yankee player, this young corps that has developed," Boone said . "Me watching from afar last year, especially in the postseason, you could kind of see that raw intensity connection that the fan base had with the players."

For all the focus on big boppers, J.D. Martinez, Mookie Betts and Andrew Benintendi for Boston, and Judge, Giancarlo Stanton and Gary Sanchez for New York, relievers have reigned in an error when starting pitchers often are shown the exit before they have a chance to stumble too much.

New York's bullpen has allowed one run in 10 innings, led by Dellin Betances, Zach Britton and Aroldis Chapman. Red Sox relievers have given up five in 11 innings.

Hoping for a deep outing, Boston manager Alex Cora selected Eovaldi for Game 3 over Rick Porcello, who pitched two-thirds of an inning of relief in Friday's opener and now will match up against 38-year-old left-hander CC Sabathia in Game 4.

Lloyd's hat trick leads US team over Panama

CARY, N.C. (AP)—The United States used a radically different lineup but got the same dominating results.

Carli Lloyd scored three goals and the United States beat Panama 5-0 on Sunday in the group stage of the CONCACAF World Cup qualifying tournament.

Christen Press added a goal and two assists for the U.S. team, which led 4-0 at halftime.

The United States' starting lineup was different by nine players from the group that began the team's 6-0 tournament-opening win over Mexico on Thursday night. Only defender Abby Dahlkemper and midfielder Julie Ertz started again, with star forwards Alex Morgan and Megan Rapinoe among those absent from the starting 11.

"I think overall it should give the group a lot of confidence knowing that we have so much depth on this team," Lloyd said. "We can seriously be deadly and unstoppable. It's coming together collectively for everyone. It's looking good."

AP

In this Sept. 4, 2018 file photo, United States' Carli Lloyd (10) kicks the ball past Chile's Carla Guerrero to score a goal during the second half of an international friendly soccer match in San Jose, Calif.

The United States struck for three goals in less than 10 minutes midway through the first half to break it open.

Lloyd, who had her eighth international hat trick, scored twice during that stretch. Among her goals was a highlight-worthy effort in the 29th minute in which she eluded three defenders while working her way from left to right in the penalty area.

A longtime midfielder for the United States, Lloyd started at striker and showed progress in her adjustment to her new role.

"I've been studying the game and trying to evolve," she said. "With that has kind of been this thing where I've kind of had to take a couple of steps backward to go five steps forward. It feels really good. It's clicking."

The U.S team didn't miss a beat with its revamped lineup. The United States scored in the fifth minute when Samantha Mewis headed in a corner kick from Press, and the team applied relentless pressure for the rest of the half.

With the potential to play five matches over the span of two weeks, coach Jill Ellis said she wanted to rest some players and "manage this tournament with the intent to try to win it."

"It's a 13-day type of deal, and five games is a lot," Ellis said. "We have the ability to do that with the talent we have on this team."

The score would have been even more lopsided if not for several acrobatic saves by 17-year-old Panama goalkeeper Yenith Bailey.

Panama didn't attempt its first shot until the 61st minute. The United States outshot Panama 35-4 overall, catching its opponent by surprise with the personnel changes.

"It was a little bit confusing because this is something that we definitely weren't expecting," Panama coach Victor Suarez said.

The United States improved to 2-0 in Group A play of the CONCACAF Women's Championship, an eight-team tournament that decides the region's three spots in the World Cup next year in France. A fourth team will earn the right to a playoff against Argentina for a spot.

Islander notches third straight victory

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Islander Rent A Car remained unbeaten following a 76-67 win over Armatech in the IT&E Emon Masonic Lodge No. 179 Mixed Masters Brotherhood Basketball League last Saturday at the Koblerville Gymnasium.

Ken Viray, Edgar Pangelinan, Paulo Sanguyo, and Angelo Fernando scored in twin digits to lift Islander to its third victory in as many games and hand Armatech its second loss also after three matches.

Pangelinan caught fire early, scoring 7 of Islander's first 10 points in the opening quarter, which ended with the eventual winners ahead, 16-13. Sanguyo and Viray also made their contributions for Islander early in the game.

The unpredictable and balance offense of Islander continued in the next three periods, as it kept the driver's seat and foiled Armatech's repeated comeback bids.

Viray dropped 9 of his 21 points in the second frame to increase their lead to 6 at the break, 32-26, while Sanguyo added 5. Pangelinan was held to one field goal in the second canto, but regained his shooting touch in the third when he drilled two triples and tallied 8 points for Islander's 48-43 advantage.

Then in the fourth canto, Viray and Fernando teamed up for 14 points, while four of their teammates chipped in at least one basket apiece to keep their safe distance.

Islander 76 — Viray 21, Pangelinan 16, Sanguyo 15, Fernando 10, Ritual 6, Thompson 5, Mangali 4.

Armatech 67 — Lauron 19, Alipio 18, Montano 13, Cosino 6, Asuhan 4, Gaviola 3, Zapanta 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-13, 32-26, 48-43.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Armatech's Ed Cosino, left, reaches for the ball in this rebound play against Islander Rent A Car's Dexter Guiang during the second quarter of their game in the IT&E Emon Lodge caging last Saturday at the Koblerville Gymnasium.

GUAM

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for the team.

"Win or lose, this generation of players have to learn. We need to gain experience and play this kind of intense match—how to control yourself mentally in different environment and to control and read the game depending on the situation though 90 minutes and beyond. You can't gain this experience during training," Mita said.

"Both teams fought till the end and played with pride. I really would like to praise both teams. This is only one match, but we could gain so many new experience and learning from this this so I really appreciate both Guam and NMI FA, the local organizing committee, and the home crowd that supported us and gave us this opportunity. They all came to give us a big cheer," the coach added.

Meanwhile, the CNMI's Jerlyn Castillo and Halehale were named MVPs in the tournament. Castillo scored one goal in the CNMI's 3-2 win in the women's U19 match. Halehale delivered one, too for the winning squad in the 20th minute to tie the match after Jonathan Capayas drew first blood for the Commonwealth in the seventh minute.

Guam grabbed the lead, 2-1, off Christian Kido's shot in the 23rd, but the CNMI ended the first half on top, thanks to Fruit and Tenorio's goals in the 39th and 44th minute, respectively. Guam tied the match anew when Martinez hit the board in the 65th minute, while Tenorio added one more late in the second half to regain the upper hand before Hennegan saved the day for the visiting crew.

SIS

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in the girls U13 division with Jenny Lin (26:47) prevailing against Elvira Zhang (31:52) and Emily Huang (31:51). In the boys field, Agape's Caleb Dai timed in at 21:18 to win over SIS' Danny Lee (23:01), and schoolmate Peter Bu (23:54).

In other results, students from four different schools ruled the elementary races.

In the boys U7 division, SIS's Oliver McCallion was the top finisher after registering 11:57 in the a one-mile course. He won over Brilliant Star School's Kanoa Owens (12:10), fellow SIS student Finn Altizer (12:18) and 18 other runners in the group. In the girls division, Saipan Community School's Allie Brasuell (13:16) led the Top 3, which also included SIS's Maliya Benson (14:30) and the former's schoolmate Elita Li (17:03).

In the girls U9 age group, Agape's Barbara Huang, SIS' Phoenix Gross, and San Vicente's Abigal made up the Top 3 after clocking in at 11:47, 13:35, and 15:03, respectively. William S. Reyes Elementary School's Paul Lizama (9:02) won the boys race after recording 9:02 and was joined in the Top 3 by SIS' Kelly McCallion (9:14) and SCS' David Xiao (10:04).

Meanwhile, the 2018 NMA All Schools Cross Country Championships will be held this Saturday, also at the Saipan Country Club.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	3	2	0	.600	133	108
Miami	3	2	0	.600	99	117
Buffalo	2	3	0	.400	63	118
N.Y. Jets	2	3	0	.400	123	105

South

Tennessee	3	2	0	.600	87	86
Jacksonville	3	2	0	.600	102	86
Houston	2	3	0	.400	115	124
Indianapolis	1	4	0	.200	118	138

North

Cincinnati	4	1	0	.800	153	130
Baltimore	3	2	0	.600	132	77
Cleveland	2	2	1	.500	114	113
Pittsburgh	2	2	1	.500	143	133

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	5	0	0	1.000	175	129
L.A. Chargers	3	2	0	.600	137	130
Denver	2	3	0	.400	100	131
Oakland	1	4	0	.200	107	149

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Washington	2	1	0	.667	64	44
Dallas	2	3	0	.400	83	96
Philadelphia	2	3	0	.400	103	104
N.Y. Giants	1	4	0	.200	104	128

South

New Orleans	3	1	0	.750	137	121
Carolina	3	1	0	.750	104	91
Tampa Bay	2	2	0	.500	112	139
Atlanta	1	4	0	.200	133	163

North

Chicago	3	1	0	.750	111	65
Minnesota	2	2	1	.500	113	131
Green Bay	2	2	1	.500	115	114
Detroit	2	3	0	.400	125	137

West

L.A. Rams	5	0	0	1.000	173	98
Seattle	2	3	0	.400	116	114
Arizona	1	4	0	.200	65	112
San Francisco	1	4	0	.200	118	146

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Epic 2018 Marianas Cup

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

If spectators were charged for tickets to watch the 2018 Marianas Cup last Sunday, every penny they paid for was definitely worth it, as the CNMI and Guam gave them a show.

"The level of play in both the women's U19 and men's U17 games was phenomenal," said Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio, who was among the horde of football fans that were kept on the edge of their seats as they witnessed back-to-back thrilling games between the CNMI and Guam's national squads at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

The CNMI Women's U19 National Team escaped with a 3-2 victory over Guam, holding its ground against the visitors' rally in the second half. In the U17 division match, Guam forced a standoff in regulation, 4-4, after a game-saving goal from Micah Hennegan and then prevailed in the shootout, 5-3.

No official count of spectators was recorded, but the 529-seater bleacher was packed and loud cheers from its occupants echoed throughout the facility. Other spectators were also scattered around the main pitch, rising from their seats to ease the tension they felt during the games, beating the drums to egg the home squads, and exchanging high-fives in delight each time the CNMI scored.

"I've been to several MLS games in the states and even watched an international tournament a couple summers ago. I loved the energy and crowd in those matches, but watching our children play on such a beautiful pitch with such a huge crowd was something else. It was better than watching a pro match. I loved the roar of the entire community when a goal was scored. There's more excitement watching people you know play, especially when you know the sacrifices they've made training and improving their skills," Kim-Tenorio said.

"Football in the CNMI has developed quickly over a short period of time. I believe we are now in our 13th year of football in the CNMI. The players who represented the CNMI yesterday are the ones who started with NMIFA since its inception. They are a true measurement of the development and success of football in our islands. It's truly prideful to see the skill level of our national teams," she added.

Charlie Rivera, who is more of a basketball fan than soccer, was glad to see the pair of matches and lauded the players' heart.

"You can see the pride they have playing for the CNMI and in front of the home crowd. Their heart was really into the game, lots of emotions after each play. The women's team has small players, but they are fast and aggressive. We, spectators really had a good time watching two great games," said Rivera, who was among the fans seated outside the fence of the main pitch.

Arlene Baguino and her son JM were at the bleachers and it was their first time together to watch a soccer game.

"It was a great experience for us, especially every time the people will react together when the CNMI scored," she said.

Guam coach Karl Dodd said the men's U17 game was one for the fans.

"I thought the spirit of the game was excellent, nobody stopped playing until the end, which is great to see. It was definitely one for the fans. Everybody would have enjoyed it, except our coaching staff, as we did make it hard for us. I congratulate the CNMI for this very good game and for hosting us," Dodd said.

At the conclusion of the intense matches, East Asian Football Federation president and Korea Football Association head Chung Mong-gyu said significant improvement in CNMI football will continue.

"Before there was a big gap between CNMI and Guam and today I was impressed with the results of the games. The men's ended in a tie and had to go through a shootout, while the women's division was won by the CNMI by a point. The CNMI has a lot of potential to improve and I wish them good luck," Chung said.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Officials and spectators in the 2019 Marianas Cup stand and pay their respect to the CNMI flag during the singing of the Commonwealth anthem last Sunday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan, far left, joins the CNMI Women's U19 National Team players and officials in celebrating their win over Guam.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Spectators wave the CNMI flag in support of the home team.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Spectators at the bleachers cheer for the CNMI.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI's Gillian Villagomez, left, deflects a pass intended for Guam's Abigail San Gil.

Last-minute FG lifts Panthers past Giants

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Sports

Brewers sweep Rockies, advance to NLCS

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SIS, Agape runners stand out

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan International School and Agape Christian School students dominated the podium in the middle and high school divisions of the 2018 Northern Marianas Athletics All Schools Cross Country Series 3 held last Saturday at the Saipan County Club in Chalan Kiya.

In the girls U18 division, Tania Tan and Stella McCallion gave SIS a 1-2 finish after recording 31:07 and 32:16, respectively, in the up and down course (nearly four miles). Marianas High School's Therize Millare rounded out the Top 3 after posting 33:54, while four other Agape runners and one each from MHS and SIS completed the finishers' list.

In the boys U18 age group, which drew 16 runners, Agape's Kobe Yang was the first placer after checking in at 27:27. Jonathan Xing, also from Agape was ranked second after recording 28:11, while MHS' Ken Song came in at third following his time of 28:45.

In the U15 division, it was an all-Agape show. Vivian Xu timed in at 27:13 in the nearly three-mile course to beat fellow Agape student Phoebe Chang and Mei Ou, who submitted 27:28 and 28:44, respectively. In the boys event, Agape also had a 1-2-3 finish with Arthur Liang (19:15) coming in at first and followed by Jason Cao (20:29) and Ray Qi (20:59).

Agape had another sweep

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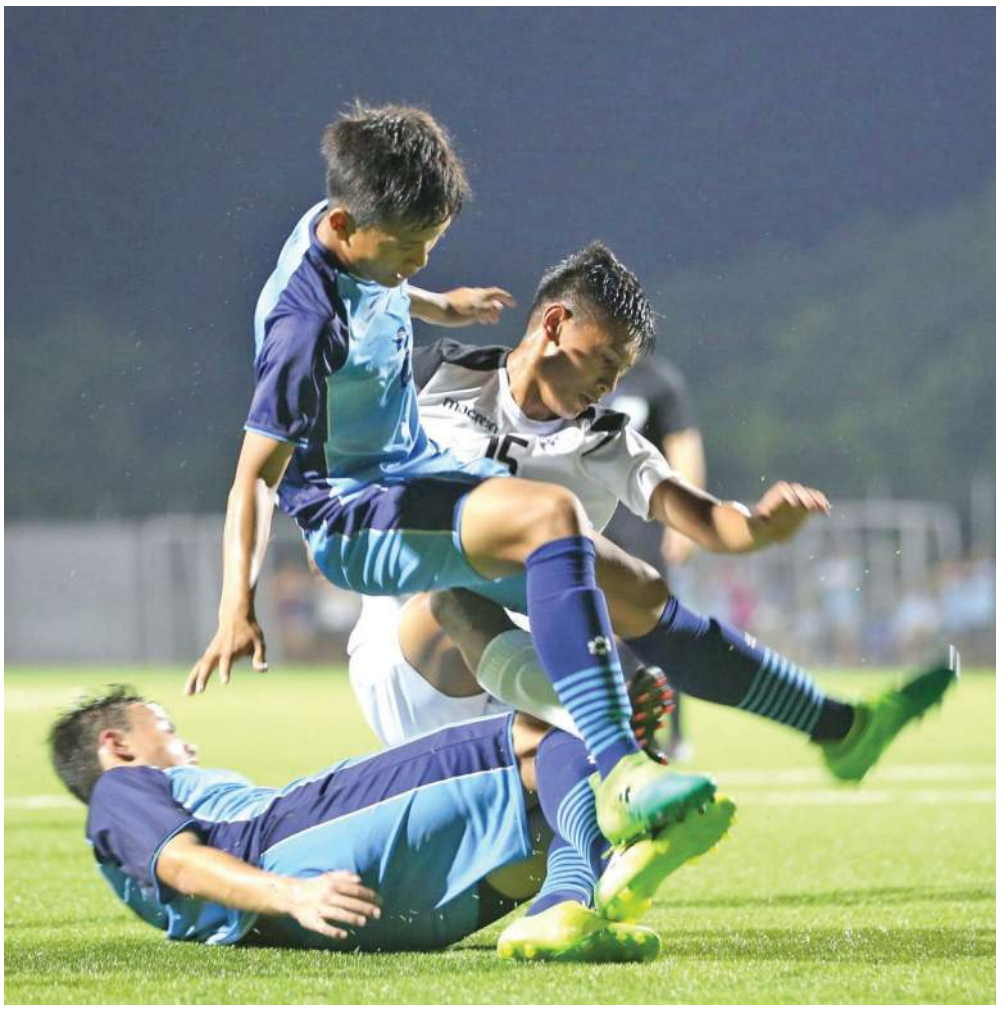
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Agape and Saipan International School students head out to the course during the 2018 Northern Marianas Athletics All Schools Cross Country Series 3 held last Saturday at the Saipan County Club in Chalan Kiya.

Guam wins in shootout



GUAM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

The CNMI's Razeff Altamirano, top, and Dai Podziewski collide with Guam's Micah Hennegan as they battle for the ball during the first half of their game in the 2018 Marianas Cup last Sunday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Guam foiled the CNMI's bid for a sweep in the 2019 Marianas Cup after prevailing in a shootout, 5-3, in the men's U17 division game last Sunday night at the packed NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Guam Men's U17 National Team players and coaches celebrate after receiving the trophy in the 2018 Marianas Cup following their 5-3 shootout victory over the CNMI last Sunday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Micah Hennegan, Nainoa Norton, Kyle Halehale, Shaun-Paul Martinez, and Morgan McKenna scored for Guam in the shootout, while Anthony Fruit, Thaiphi Austria, and Dai Podziewski found their target for the Teen Ayuyus.

The match had to go through the penalty shootout after Hennegan hit the dagger in the closing seconds of stoppage time (four minutes). Hennegan received a pass from one of his teammates and with most CNMI defenders on the other side of the pitch, he was left to face goalie John Joseph Bucayo and unloaded a cross that knotted the count, 4-all.

Sunjoon Tenorio, who gave the CNMI its last taste of the lead when he did his patented hop and jump over Guam

goalie Alexander Stenson for a goal in the 83rd minute, tried to retaliate with less than 20 seconds remaining in the game. Stenson moved in, as he attempted to stop Tenorio's shot, but could not make the save. Fortunately for Guam, one of its defenders stepped in and kicked the ball out and the visiting squad hung on to bring the game in penalty shootout as time expired a few seconds later after Tenorio's miss.

Guam knocked it the first penalty attempt and the CNMI countered each time until Tenorio—the fourth shooter for the home squad—was frustrated by Stenson. The Guam goalie dove for the ball and use his body and hands for the save. With Guam ahead, 4-3, McKenna sealed it for the team with his right corner shot.

"Winning by penalty is tough. It was a great game and our determination to keep going until the end pulled us through," Guam coach Karl Dodd said.

"No matter that the score is, we will not go out without a fight. I have many experiences of losing and being down by a lot of goals, but I keep pushing myself hard until the game ends," Hennegan said when asked about his game-saving shot.

As for the Teen Ayuyus, coach Michiteru Mita took the loss as a learning experience

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